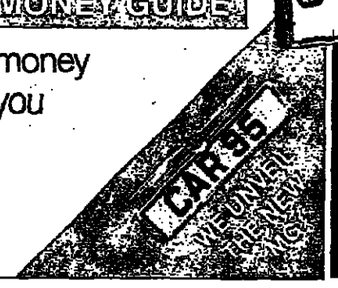
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30p

UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN SERIALS DIVISION

THE TIMES

No. 65,206 SATURDAY MARCH 4 1995

Animal rights lobby scents victory

MPs vote in favour of hunting ban

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ALICE THOMSON

THE decades-long campaign to abolish blood sports reached its most important landmark yesterday with the first Commons vote in favour of a ban on fox-hunting.

A Labour backbencher's Bill that would also outlaw stag-hunting and hare-coursing was carried without opposition as the supporters of hunting accepted that defeat was inevitable and deliberately boycotted the vote. Although several spoke in favour of hunting during the five-hour debate, they all stayed out of the division lobbies in an attempt to deny the result legitimacy.

As a result, John McFall's Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill was given a second reading by 253 votes to nil, a result greeted with cheering inside the Commons chamber and in the public gallery. Thirty Conservative MPs supported the measure as tens of thousands of country sports supporters gathered at rallies across the country to protest against it.

It was an emotional debate in which animal rights supporters pitted themselves against the backers of traditional countryside pursuits, who said that hunting was the most humane way to keep the fox population down.

The vote probably was the beginning of the end for rural pastimes that have divided communities and politicians for generations. By last night countryside sports organisations were saying that one day fishing and shooting could be under threat as well.

Mr McFall said it was an "historic vote that signals the end of fox-hunting and other deeply cruel activities".

The RSPCA, one of the Bill's main backers, and the League Against Cruel Sports said the end of bloodsports was in sight. "This is a historic first step towards a better deal for Britain's wild animals," the RSPCA said. "It is just a matter of time before wild mammals get full protection in the law." The league, the main anti-hunting body, said it had been one of the most glorious days in its history. "The vast majority of the public clearly want to see hunting banned and today is one great step nearer that goal," it said.

The British Field Sports Society denied that the vote had been a condemnation of hunting. Its chairman, Dr Charles Goodson-Wickes, the Tory MP, said: "There is absolutely no prospect of this Bill reaching the statute book unless in committee Mr McFall will drop the anti-country sports provisions."

The Bill, which also protects squirrels and hedgehogs from unnecessary cruelty, is not expected to become law. Its opponents are likely to make use of legitimate parliamentary tactics to block it during committee stage. Without the help of the Government, such a controversial Bill could not hope to be granted enough parliamentary time to get through.

However, the anti-hunting lobby was scenting ultimate victory last night. To have secured a Commons majority for its cause while the country is governed by the Conservatives, traditionally the hunting party, was a great milestone. It left the lobby saying that eventually the will of Parliament would be fulfilled.

A Labour government would allow a free vote on the issue and then introduce the necessary legislation if it was approved; that means that it would be certain to be enacted.

The vote marked a sea change in attitudes towards animal welfare after years of impassioned campaigning. Only three years ago a similar Bill failed when 180 Tories, including 14 cabinet members, turned out to vote it down by 12 votes.

Elliot Morley, speaking from the Labour [illegible] said the "days of hunting are numbered. In the not too distant future, people will look back with amazement that this House has allowed people to inflict deliberate cruelty and stress on wild animals in the name of entertainment."

Sir Andrew Bowden, a Tory sponsor of the Bill, said: "This is a great day for animal welfare. It's a victory I have been waiting for for 25 years."

Debate, voting list and protests, page 10
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RICHARD AUSTIN



Field sports supporters at Wincanton, Somerset, attend one of many rallies organised throughout the country yesterday to oppose John McFall's Bill

British fraud inquiry begins as Leeson stays in German jail

BY PATRICIA TEHAN AND DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE Serious Fraud Office has launched an investigation into allegations of fraud at Barings as Nicholas Leeson, the trader blamed for the bank's collapse, indicated yesterday that he would prefer to face trial in Britain and avoid extradition to Singapore.

An SFO spokesman said: "Allegations of fraud in Singapore relating to the activities of a trader employed at Barings bank have been made. The SFO, in conjunction with the City of London police, are investigating these allegations as far as they might relate to England."

In Frankfurt, Mr Leeson's lawyer said his client, who arrived there on Thursday ending a week on the run, would fight extradition to Singapore to face deception charges and had information that could "damage other people at Barings". Mr Leeson will remain on remand in a German prison for the estimated three month duration of his case.

A trio of finance police from Singapore had arrived in Frankfurt to bolster their case while a British policeman was due to land in the German city last night.

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said that a full investigation would be launched into claims that senior executives at Barings were warned six months ago that Mr Leeson could override the bank's controls.

The Chancellor said that until the Board of Banking Supervision had completed its investigation into the affair, it would be impossible to say whether anything had gone wrong at Barings.

As the Bank of England's team continues to analyse Barings's accounts, a High Court judge was last night on standby to approve the sale of the businesses to a Dutch banking group, which has been given a period of exclusive negotiating rights by the administrators appointed by Ernst & Young. If Internationale Nederlanden Groep (ING) is successful, the Dutch bank will pay £1 for most of Baring Brothers & Co bank, Baring Securities and Baring Asset Management, and take on its liabilities.

The Bank of England's investigators are looking into the role of directors to ensure they exercised proper control. It emerged yesterday that Peter Norris, the chief executive of investment banking and of Baring Securities, who had overall board responsibility for Mr Leeson's trading activities, is the main director of a failed company. His firm, Duff & Trotter Limited, a food and wine merchants, ceased trading in 1989, but he appears to have been meeting its liabilities since then.

The basis of the SFO inquiry is understood to be information concerning representations made by Mr Leeson to his London head office which has been given to the SFO by Barings. The SFO was not attempting to have Mr Leeson extradited to England.

ING

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Seeds of disaster -

Red Dwarf star is cleared

Craig Charles, star of the television science fiction series *Red Dwarf*, was cleared yesterday of orchestrating a gang rape. The actor alternately sobbed and smiled in the dock after his acquittal but later attacked the case against him and called for anonymity for rape defendants Page 3

Fayeds refused citizenship

Mohamed Al Fayed, the Harrods chairman, and his brother Ali are threatening legal action against the Home Secretary after their applications for British citizenship were rejected Page 2

Dean faces church court over woman's sex charge

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Dean of Lincoln, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson, is to be accused in a church court of having an "improper" sexual relationship with a woman member of the cathedral congregation.

Dr Jackson, 60, married with three children, will face charges in the consistory court of "conduct unbecoming the office and work of a clerk in holy orders", the Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Rev Robert Hardy, said yesterday. If found guilty, he could be dismissed from his job as incumbent of the cathedral.

Bishop Hardy began the legal proceedings against Dr Jackson after the woman alleged that "with her own consent, and indeed encouragement, the dean engaged in an improper, albeit brief, sexual relationship with her." Dr Jackson, who has taken leave of absence until the court hearing, has denied the allegations, made in February last year. Dr Jackson is the most senior clergyman in recent history to face such a charge. Bishop Hardy has instituted proceedings under the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1963. The examiner at a preliminary hearing last month decided that Dr Jackson should face trial in a consistory court. A statement issued on behalf of the bishop by his assistant, Canon Raymond Rodger, said: "The dean continues to assert that he is innocent of the matters alleged against him and in the circumstances it would be quite inappropriate for the bishop to express any opinion about the matter until it is heard by the consistory court."



Jackson: continues to assert his innocence

He said the bishop had the power to suspend the dean. "The bishop has not considered it appropriate in this case to suspend the dean, who has continued to fulfil his duties in and connected with the cathedral.

"However, in view of the pressure which the forthcoming consistory court hearing is likely to place upon the dean personally and the consequent effect upon his family and the cathedral congregation, it has been agreed at the dean's request that he will have leave of absence from the cathedral until the consistory court hearing takes place." A consistory court, while being a court of

Continued on page 2, col 1

Snow blocks roads and closes schools

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

SCHOOLS were closed, roads blocked and thousands of homes left without power yesterday as snow brought chaos to much of the country.

The snow, driven by a northwest wind, fell in the early hours over much of Wales, the Midlands and East Anglia, cutting off hundreds of villages and making the journey to work a slippery nightmare for millions. Temperatures were expected to fall again overnight.

The weekend forecast promises cold with more snow and rain showers. "It's too late in the year for any snow really to build up," a spokesman at the London Weather Centre said. "There is a small low-pressure area off Ireland which might just sweep across the country and bring more snow showers, but we have seen the worst of this weather for the time being."

AA patrols answered twice as many calls as usual yesterday and a busy weekend is expected if the bad weather continues. A spokesman said motorways and A-class roads would be relatively clear, but conditions on minor roads were likely to be extremely hazardous, with some still blocked by snow.

On Thursday night, Birmingham international airport closed for two hours. Four flights were diverted to Manchester and passengers had to be brought back to Birmingham by bus as snow built up on the runways.

In Staffordshire, a coach carrying 25 passengers overturned in heavy snow and caused chaos on the M6. Passengers scrambled out after the vehicle rolled on to its side.

Thames Valley police reported dozens of minor accidents caused by black ice across Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, with the Cotswold towns of Ban-

Continued on page 2, col 8

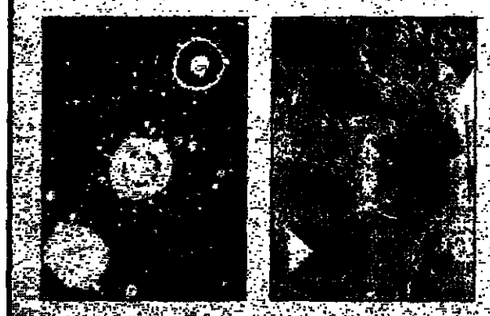
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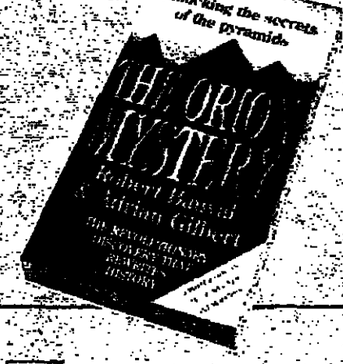
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California pizza thief is given life sentence

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

DICKENSIAN England is often cited as a society in which a child could go to prison for stealing a handkerchief but in California a man has been jailed for life after taking a slice of pizza from a child.

That dubious legal milestone was passed on Thursday, when Jerry Dewayne Williams was given a life sentence — a minimum of 25 years — under the state's "three strikes and you're out" law, which requires such a sentence for anybody with two previous convictions for serious crimes. Williams, 27, has a considerable criminal appetite with prior convictions for armed robbery, attempted robbery and drug possession, but it was a more basic hunger that made him the focus of furious legal debate.

On July 30 last year Williams, who is 6ft 4in and weighs 17 stone, was walking along the pier at Redondo Beach, Los Angeles, and saw four children aged between seven and 14 sharing a large pizza. When they refused to give him a slice, he simply took it.

He did not, in fact, eat it the pizza but threw it into the sea because, as he later told police, he does not like pepperoni and has an allergy to pork. On the witness stand Williams denied intimidating the youngsters, and even claimed to have thanked the children as he walked away laughing.

That did not deter California's new "three-strikes" law from grinding into action. After a report from the owner of the pizza shop, Williams was arrested and charged with petty theft, usually classed as a misdemenour. But under the new law and given Williams's four previous felony convictions, two of them defined as "serious", prosecutors were able to increase the charges to "felonious petty theft" and thus demand the maximum penalty of life imprisonment for three felonies.

The "three strikes" law was enacted last March amid public outrage over the case of a 12-year-old girl murdered by a man with a history of violent crime who was on parole.

Several states are planning to enact the legislation. An appeal is certain to be lodged and the case may come before the Supreme Court.

Chain gang, page 15
Leading article, page 17

Fayeds turned down for citizenship

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH AND STEWART TENDLER

MOHAMED AL FAYED, the Harrods chairman, and his brother Ali are threatening legal action against the Home Secretary after their applications for British citizenship were rejected.

The Egyptian-born brothers, resident in Britain for more than 30 years, are prepared to take their case to the High Court for judicial review and, if that fails, to the European courts.

In a statement, the brothers claimed yesterday that the Home Office decision was unfair and based on prejudice. They said they had been given no reasons for the refusal and were seeking an explanation.



Mohamed Al Fayed: legal action ahead

The qualifications for naturalisation under the British Nationality Act 1981 include residential requirements, no breaches of immigration regulations and good character. Last night the Home Office declined to comment on the case.

The Fayeds have often been at the centre of controversy and in 1990 a Department of Trade and Industry report on the House of Fraser takeover concluded they had misrepresented their origins, wealth and business interests in the bid. Last year Mohamed Al Fayed, was cleared by police of trying to blackmail the Government in the controversy over MPs accepting cash for questions.

The decision to reject their naturalisation applications was taken by Nicholas Baker, the Immigration Minister. According to Home Office sources, the regulations do not require reasons to be given, and it is claimed the brothers were treated like other applicants who went through the full procedures to a ministerial decision.

Ali Fayed, who has a British wife and three British sons, applied for British citizenship on January 30, 1993. Mohamed Al Fayed, who together with his Finnish wife has two British sons and two British daughters, applied on February 15, 1994. Mr Al Fayed said: "My brother and I have lived here for a long time and have made substantial investment in British commerce, as well as making a positive contribution to other aspects of life in the country."

Michael Cole, a spokesman for the brothers, said they had right of residence in Britain and would not leave. Although they had applied separately, they had received identical letters each with one sentence signed by a civil servant turning down their applications.

Last year, Mr Al Fayed denied that his allegations that two government ministers would accept cash in return for asking parliamentary questions were linked to the way his brother's application was being handled. He said he understood the application had been stalled at ministerial level.

In October, he alleged that Tim Smith, then a junior Northern Ireland minister and Neil Hamilton, then a trade and industry minister, had accepted cash from him in exchange for asking questions in the Commons on his behalf. Mr Hamilton vigorously denied the allegation and resigned from the Government to clear his name. Mr Smith also resigned: he admitted receiving money and not having declared it in the Register of Members' Interests at the right time. Mr Al Fayed said at the time he was not acting out of revenge but wanted to expose what he claimed was hypocrisy in government.

Under the Nationality Act an applicant must be over 18; be of sound mind; be of good character; have sufficient knowledge of English; and intend if naturalised to make his home in the UK. An applicant must have lived in this country over the past five years. He can be out of the country for 450 days during those five years and in the year before the application must have spent no more than 90 days out of the country.

Jobs ban for former ministers unlikely

A two-year ban on former ministers moving to sensitive jobs in the private sector is unlikely to be recommended by the Nolan committee. Lord Nolan had been reported as backing the proposal to instigate a waiting period similar to those imposed on senior civil servants when they leave government service. The idea was supported by several former ministers who appeared before his inquiry, including Lord Young of Graffham and Sir Norman Fowler.

But although committee insiders said no decision had yet been reached, many now favoured a "mandatory guidance procedure", the details of which remain under discussion. However, the committee is unanimous that the status quo, supported by the Government, is unacceptable. Lord Nolan, who has been appointed for three years, will produce his first report in May.

Backing for carers Bill

A Private Member's Bill to help people who act as unpaid carers was given an unopposed second reading in the Commons yesterday and is set to become law. The Bill requires councils to assess the needs of carers and provide them with support. The measure, put forward by Malcolm Wicks, a Labour MP, was backed by the Government.

Mutilated boy saved

A five-year-old boy whose genitals were cut off by a man with a knife was recovering yesterday after hours of microsurgery. St Andrew's Hospital in Billericay, Essex, said the operation was successful. The boy was attacked at his home in Wood Green, north London. Last night police were questioning his father.

Widow loses claim

Diane Osborne, the widow of a music teacher who was stabbed to death after confronting a vandal in south London, has lost her battle for compensation. The Criminal Injuries Compensation Board has rejected her appeal against a decision to refuse her claim. It had ruled against her because her husband Bob was carrying a hammer.

Mother wins damages

A woman whose brain was damaged by a hospital blunder after giving birth was awarded £845,000 damages in the High Court yesterday. Sandra Scott, 46, was robbed of her memory after being given a solution of potassium chloride instead of water at the Mayday Hospital, Croydon, Surrey, after her son Adam, now six, was born.

Mendy gets seven years

The sports agent, Ambrose Mendy, 40, of Wanstead, east London, has been jailed for seven years by Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court for a £4 million bank fraud plot. Edmund Parkinson, 45, of Kentish Town, north London, was sentenced to 2½ years and Michael Marsden, 40, a financial consultant of Barking, east London, to one year.

Burns man confesses

A man who claimed he had been set alight in a revenge attack has admitted he accidently set himself on fire as he lit a cigarette while holding a can of petrol, police disclosed yesterday. Andrew King, 30, of Halifax, West Yorkshire, is still in hospital with severe burns to the lower part of his body 17 days after he was engulfed in flames.

Dean's case

Continued from page 1

the Church of England, is an established part of the English legal system.

The case will be before Judge Michael Goodman, diocesan chancellor, acting as the bishop's officer, and who will sit with two lay and two clergy assistants. Derek Welfman, the diocesan registrar, will be clerk of the court.

Dr Jackson said that he hoped the latest controversy to hit the cathedral would eventually benefit it. "It has had hundreds of years of unhappiness and conflict. The cathedral cannot return to normal after this, and there will have to be a fundamental shake-up. Out of this evil I am confronting, good will come." He added: "My wife is supporting me totally, although she is very angry about the way it is being treated."

The 13th century cathedral, with 14th century additions and visible for miles from its position on a ridge, is considered the finest of English cathedrals but has been subject to repeated controversy since Dr Jackson was appointed dean by Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister in 1989. She is said to have told her appointments secretary she did not know Dr Jackson personally but "I know of him — there'll be blood on the carpet of Lincoln Cathedral before he's finished."

Lincoln cathedral was last in the headlines over a loss-making exhibition of its copy of the Magna Carta in Australia in 1988.

Leeson's lawyer backs prospect of British trial

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY IN FRANKFURT

NICK LEESON'S lawyer yesterday suggested that the banker might agree to face trial in Britain to avoid being extradited to Singapore.

He spoke as Mr Leeson, 28, prepared to spend his first night in the German prison cell from where he will resist attempts by the Singapore authorities to have him returned on deception charges which he strongly denies.

Mr Leeson, it emerged, had flown from the Far East to Frankfurt only because the plane to London had been full.

Mr Leeson's lawyer hinted that his client "knew where the bodies were buried at Barings bank" but was not yet prepared to name names.

The whereabouts of Mr Leeson's wife Lisa, 26, were unknown last night. She is believed to have been flown to Fairoaks airfield at Chobham, Surrey, in a privately chartered aircraft, accompanied by her parents Alec and Patsy Sims.

Meanwhile a British police officer was arriving in Frankfurt for possible liaison with the German authorities and a trio of Singapore finance police who delivered documents backing their government's plea for extradition.

Eberhard Kempf, Mr Leeson's German lawyer, when asked whether his client knew anything that could implicate other people, replied: "Sure, I assume he has information that could damage other people at Barings."

Mr Leeson's immediate future was sealed when the regional court in Frankfurt decided that he should be remanded into provisional extradition custody on charges of falsifying documents. The public prosecutor said Leeson was accused of falsification of documents with intent to deceive to the disadvantage of his company and partners, and breach of trust.

Mr Leeson was then taken to a modern, brown-brick prison in the suburb of Hoechst where he will spend about four months trying to avoid being returned to Singapore.

Mr Kempf said his client had contacted a British lawyer who was due to arrive in Frankfurt next week. Mr Leeson's first opportunity to challenge the decision to remand him will be next week.

SFO investigation, page 1
Leading article, and Letters, page 17

SIMON WALKER



Nick Leeson being escorted to a prison van

Fugitive's story may fetch £250,000

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

AS NICK LEESON'S lawyer announced his intention to fight extradition to Singapore yesterday, a potentially more brutal fight got underway in the media world.

Max Clifford, the public relations adviser, is believed to have negotiated a deal with Mr Leeson to help him to sell his story. Sums of up to £250,000 are being mentioned to secure exclusive rights to the Leeson saga.

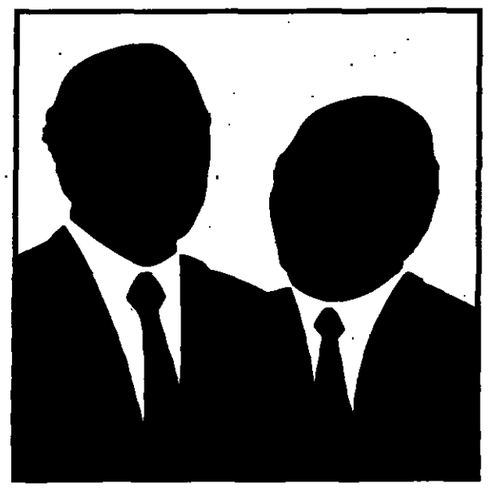
Lisa Leeson is back in England at a secret address with her parents. Her husband is understood to have telephoned Mr Clifford earlier this week to ask for advice.

Mr Clifford said that Mr Leeson was very keen to sell his side of the story. "He wants the world to know that he's been the victim of great injustice."

The Mail on Sunday offered to fly Lisa's parents to Singapore and look after them "for as long as it takes" until Mr Leeson's return, according to one industry insider.

The Sun, meanwhile, apparently offered Mrs Leeson at least £50,000 for her story, although Mr Clifford believes that she could get at least double that amount if she chose to speak.

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Fears for solo yachtsman, 70, in round-the-world race

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

HARRY MITCHELL, a 70-year-old making his third attempt to race solo around the world, appears to have run into trouble deep in the southern ocean, 1,500 miles west of Cape Horn.

Rescue authorities picked up the automatic signal from the emergency position indicating radio beacon fitted to his 40-ft yacht, *Henry Hornblower*, late on Thursday night. But all attempts to reach him by radio and satellite have failed.

Winds in this desolate area in the Furious Fifty latitudes were gusting between 65 and 70 knots yesterday, and attempts to raise a second sailor in the race, Minoru Saito of Japan, by radio, who was 232 miles from Mitchell's position, had also failed. Mitchell's emergency beacon has a battery life of only 48 hours, and with Saito representing his only hope of immediate rescue, should his yacht have sunk, race organisers in Punta del Este, Uruguay, and Charleston, South Carolina, were trying to make contact throughout last night.

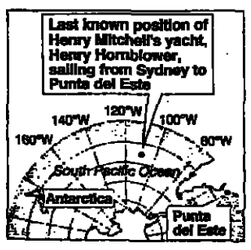
Rescue authorities in Hawaii, Cornwall, and Chile were also alerted, and last night were assessing what rescue resources were available to locate the sailor before his batteries expired.

Mitchell, a former garage owner from Portsmouth, entered his first BOC Challenge round-the-world race in 1986, but was forced to retire after running aground at Bluff on the South Island of New Zealand.

Four years later, his second attempt to fulfil a lifelong dream to sail around the world also came to grief when his yacht hit a ship in the English Channel during his first night at sea.

He entered for the third time last September. Mr Mitchell's wife Diana said last night: "I just hope that his beacon has gone off inadvertently and it is a false alarm."

Mrs Mitchell, of Southsea, Hampshire, added: "It has been his lifelong ambition to sail round the world singlehanded. I know he is 70 but he is still more than capable of sailing his yacht and he absolutely loves it."



Snow chaos

Continued from page 1

bury and Chipping Norton among the worst affected. Hundreds of schools across the region were closed, including all 457 local education authority schools in Birmingham.

In Wales, where almost 8in of snow fell, more than 20,000 homes were without power. Heavy snow forced 140 schools to close.

London Underground's deicing trains failed to cope with the conditions, but few people living south of the North Circular Road were affected by the wintry conditions. To the north and west of the capital, however, the lines were closed during the morning rush hour.

Today's racing at Newbury, Doncaster and Warwick is under threat with all three courses being subjected to an early morning inspection. But the international rugby match at Murrayfield should not be affected.

Photograph and Forecast, page 20

THE SUNDAY TIMES
A double life

'Oleg Gordievsky was the KGB spy who turned his back on the Soviet Union and risked his life to help the West win the cold war. This week he tells of the clandestine meetings; the near misses when he thought he had been discovered — and how he unmasked a traitor in MI5 . . .'

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'I hope this does not deter genuine victims from reporting a heinous crime'

Red Dwarf star cleared of gang rape charges

By Michael Horsnell

CRAIG CHARLES, star of the science fiction television series *Red Dwarf*, was cleared yesterday of orchestrating a gang rape. The Liverpool comic actor, who had received legal aid, sobbed and smiled in the dock after his acquittal but later attacked the "lamentable" case against him.

Speaking outside Southwark Crown Court at the end of his ten-day trial, Mr Charles said: "I hope that the publicity does not deter genuine rape victims from reporting what is in fact a heinous crime and a crime against humanity. Now I just want to get on with my life, get on with my job and get back to what I do best."

The prosecution had alleged that Mr Charles, 30, and his co-defendant, John Peploe, a company director, had gone with an untraced third man to the south London flat of a former Soho stripper and bound and blindfolded her. They were each cleared of rape and four counts of indecent assault. The jury of eight men and four women took one hour and 40 minutes to reach its verdicts. Stephen Solley, QC, defending Mr Charles, had pointed to "key gaps" in the Crown case and described prosecution evidence as "completely unacceptable, inadequate and half-hearted sort of forensic evidence". After being taken to a police rape suite, the woman had been allowed to go home because no doctor was available. She washed and it was 30 hours before she was medically examined.

There was no DNA evidence and the jury heard that despite many forensic tests nothing was found which showed that the two men had taken part in sex acts which the woman described.

Mr Charles, aged 30, of Kennington, south London, faces an uncertain future after low-life admissions in court which have damaged his cosy image as the loveable "Scouse in your house".

He had admitted snorting cocaine at the home of the woman who accused him, a 38-year-old single mother with whom he had had a relationship. Mr Charles maintained that he had called on her for a "bacon butty" breakfast at 6am last July 8 after spending the night in Soho.

The son of a Liverpool lorry driver, Mr Charles has already lost an estimated £250,000 in TV and radio appearances, commercial voice-overs and corporate videos since last July when he began four months on remand before receiving bail.

The actor said after the case: "This is the end of a nine-month nightmare for me and my family. For three-and-a-half months I was locked up for 23 hours a day and forced to urinate and defecate in a bucket in front of other people. And what is horrendous is that all the lies the so-called victim told in court and were printed by the press were easily revealed by my QC, Stephen Solley, under cross-examination and were therefore there for any fair-minded police officer to see."

Saying that the case should never have come to court, he commented: "As an innocent man I'm appalled about the publicity that this case has brought. The fact that my name and address along with my picture can appear on the front of the papers before the so-called victim has even signed a statement proves that anonymity for rape defendants is a must and that the law must be changed."

Commander Tom Williamson, chairman of the Metropolitan Police serious sexual offences committee, said after the trial: "Our procedures normally work effectively. We are now reviewing the rota system for forensic medical examinations."

ROBIN MAYES



Craig Charles, with his solicitor, Howard Stacey, calling for a change in the law governing rape publicity

Mystic jailed for indecent assault

By Richard Duce

A MYSTIC Indian faith healer was jailed for six months yesterday for indecently assaulting a young woman he was treating for depression.

Tayavalappil Krishnan, who has kept a vow of silence for 33 years, was sentenced at Manchester Crown Court for attacking the woman, 19, who had turned to him for help. Krishnan, 65, known to his followers in India as Baba the silent healer, had communicated with his barrister through notes and on his conviction produced a character reference from the Indian High Commissioner.

Judge Singer told him: "It appears there is no person incapable of a criminal offence."

Krishnan was visiting Britain in 1993 when he assaulted the woman at an address in Manchester while massaging her with oils. She had turned to him because she suffered trauma after a car crash. The judge told him the offence "was committed by a man of stature and wisdom on a vulnerable young woman who had come to him for help when in difficulty".

Krishnan, who adopted the name Baba after being influenced by the mystic Meher Baba who kept silent for 40 years, believes that speaking would diminish his healing power.

Krishnan denied indecent assault. He said in notes to his defence team: "The thought of sex was not in my mind."

TIMES SPORT ON MONDAY



HAMED v LIENDO
Srikumar Sen at the big fight; Robert Crampton on bad boys and boxing hype

GREAT SCOTS
Scotland v Wales and Ireland v France in the five nations' championship

SPORT IN SCHOOLS
David Powell on the national cross-country championships

12 PAGES OF SPORT EVERY MONDAY

TV show cancels runaway's interview

By Kathryn Knight and Alexandra Frean

CHANNEL 4 last night cancelled a live interview from New York with the runaway schoolboy Peter Kerry on its youth programme *The Word*, after his headmaster criticised the trip.

Peter, 14, sparked an international hunt when he ran away to Malaysia using his father's credit card and passport ten days ago.

Channel 4 decided hours before the programme was due to go on air not to go ahead with the item. A spokesman said: "The key factor was the concern expressed by Peter's school." He said that the channel had not been aware that Langley Grammar near Slough, Berkshire, had refused permission for Peter to miss school.

Earlier, Dr Alan Robinson, Peter's headmaster, had condemned the trip, saying it would send "all the wrong signals" to other schoolchildren. Dr Robinson said that Peter had not attended school since his return from Malaysia earlier this week.

"The parents should have taken a firmer line this week. He has taken Friday off and will not be in school on Monday either. By going to the US with Channel 4 he is effectively being rewarded for going to Malaysia," he said.

Peter was due to return to England in the early hours of Monday morning, when he will be interviewed by police and could face forgery charges for allegedly disguising his father's passport photograph.

Soho doorgirl to pay for scaring £144 cola boy

By A Staff Reporter

A DOORGIRL at a striptease club was yesterday ordered to pay compensation to a 16-year-old boy for his emotional distress after he was lured inside and made to pay £144 for a can of cola.

Clair Malone, 20, threatened to tell his parents that he had visited the Soho club Erotica unless he paid a £500 bill she gave him. Malone, formerly from Dublin, was put on 18 months' probation and instructed to do 100 hours' community service for blackmailing the boy.

Recorder Chadwin, QC, who ordered her to pay £70 to her victim, said at the Old Bailey: "He said he was terrified out of his wits. I have power for him to be compensated for the emotional distress he no doubt endured."

The Recorder said that "to some extent" the boy, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had brought it on himself by going into the club. "He is a very young man and I am not here to censure him."

The boy had ordered a cola, which he was told would cost £4.50. But he was not shown the club tariff listing non-alcoholic cocktails at £109 and £67. He had not seen a striptease show but was handed a bill for £500. When he protested he was told the club would contact his parents.

Malone produced a form and told him to write down his name and address. He later drew out £114 from a cash machine and promised to pay the rest the following weekend. "I went home feeling scared and frightened. They seemed very serious about telling my parents. I knew what my father would be like," the boy had told the court.



Malone: planning to breed Siamese cats

When his mother discovered that his bank account was overdrawn he revealed what had happened. He had travelled to London from his Surrey home to buy a pornographic video and pretended to be 18 to get into the club.

Malone, who lived in Soho at the time, has severed her links with the club and had no intention of taking up that type of work again, the court was told. She was neglected as a child and found it difficult to stand for long periods after undergoing surgery when she was 11. After her conviction last month Malone was terrified that she would be sent to prison, Francis Gilbert, her counsel, said.

Recorder Chadwick said that as a result of considerable publicity Malone had also lost her good name "in a very public and humiliating way". She now hoped to breed Siamese cats.

Museum stumbles on arrest warrant for Young Pretender

THE royal warrant for the arrest of Bonnie Prince Charlie, who led the Highland clans in the ill-fated 1745 rebellion against Hanoverian rule, has been discovered in a small museum (Lucy Berrington writes).

The "priceless" but unprepossessing writ was issued by George II in an attempt to apprehend the fugitive prince. It offered a £30,000 reward, the equivalent of £1.5 million today, for the capture of the Young Pretender and instructed the sheriff who received the writ to display wanted posters.

Staff at the Elgin Museum in Moray had long held a copy of the poster but came across an additional document when preparing an exhibition. The manuscript, measuring only 2in by 8in and so faded that it was illegible, had lain for more than a century in the backroom archives of the museum. The wording materialised three days ago when forensic scientists at the local police station placed it under ultra-violet light.



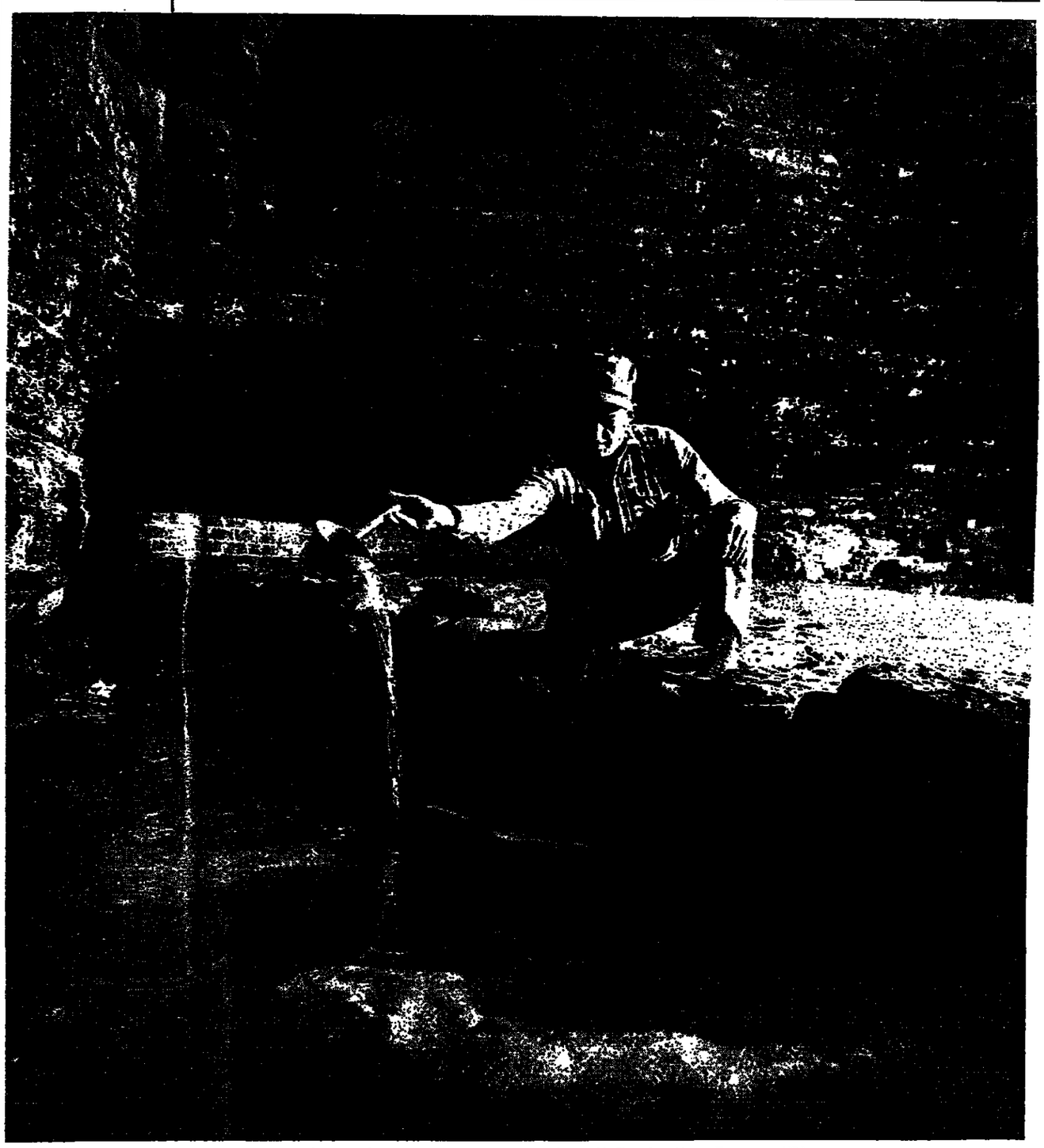
Charles Edward Stuart: wanted posters ordered

The warrant begins: "George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth. To Our Sheriff of Elgin Greeting. We Command you ... cause publickly and solemnly to be Proclaimed a certain Proclamation ... in distinct and publick places that it may more plainly appear to Our Subjects and Liege People."

Jim Inglis, the museum curator, said: "There's no way you can even think about pricing it. I wouldn't tell you anyway: the last thing I want is the bandits to come out of the hills all over again."

Attributed to "guardians and trustees of the Kingdom", the writ was donated in 1860 by Captain James Stewart of Lesmurdie, a member of the Moray Society which set up the museum 24 years earlier. The prince stayed in Elgin for three days while his army marched towards Culloden in 1746.

Despite the price on his head, Charles Edward Stuart was never betrayed or captured and escaped after Culloden, the last battle on British soil, after disguising himself as a woman. He later drank himself into oblivion and in 1788 died in poverty on the Continent.



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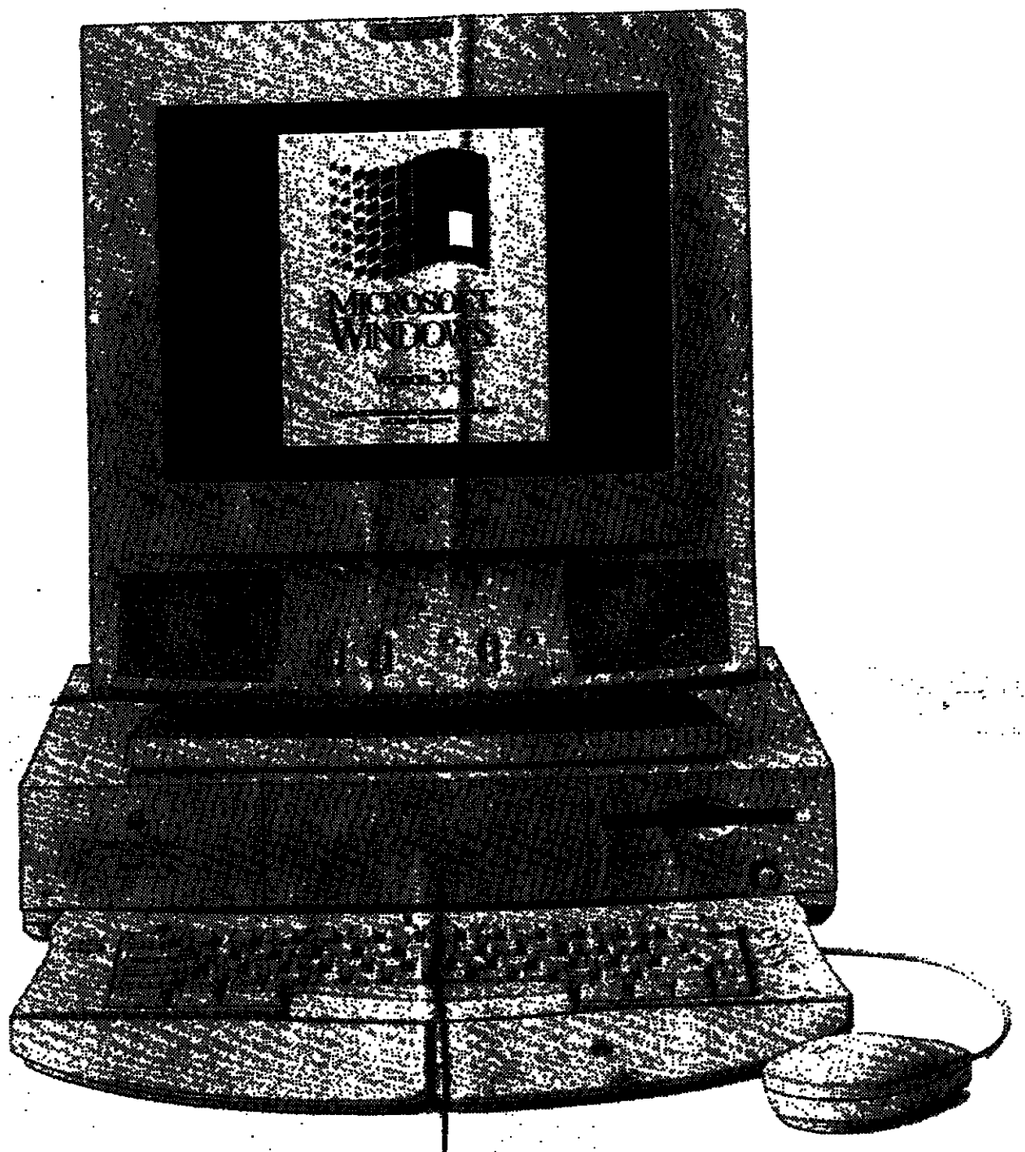
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Owners of traditional thatched cottages may benefit as reed-bed habitats are restored

Project aims to save birds on the edge of extinction

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

AN AMBITIOUS scheme to save one of Britain's rarest birds from extinction was launched yesterday.

The bittern is now confined to about 15 breeding pairs in Norfolk, Suffolk and Lancashire. In the 1950s there were about 80 pairs, and in the last century it was commonly served roasted.

The bittern, a shy bird that lives in reed beds and whose males make a booming sound reminiscent of someone blowing across the top of a bottle, has fallen victim to pollution, pesticides, poor management of reed beds, and land drainage. It feeds on fish and amphibians. Clear water is believed to be vital to the bird's survival as it hunts by sight.

The move to rescue the bittern is being led by English Nature, which advises the Government on wildlife and conservation.

The aim is to get 100 pairs of bitterns breeding in Britain in the next 25 years. It is the first breed to be chosen in its species recovery programme, which aims to restore more than 20 birds on the brink of extinction. Yesterday John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, dug a reed pool at Cley Marshes, Norfolk, to launch the £300,000 scheme, which also has backing from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Eastern Electricity.



Gummer: dug a pool to launch recovery scheme

Mr Gummer said: "The Marsh Harrier will benefit from this along with other wildlife. There is a very real chance that we can get the bittern back into the whole of the Norfolk Broads. This project will be a feeder for that but it is only relatively recently that the Broads have become protected.

"That provides the habitat protection. All we need to do now is increase the number of birds, which is what we are trying to do now."

The project, which includes the Leigston Moss reserve in Lancashire run by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, where about four pairs of bittern survive, could also restore British reed to the roofs of thatched homes. Many thatchers now use reeds from eastern Europe because increased pollution and falling water levels in the reed beds of the east coast have created stunted plants. The scheme will create a mosaic of reeds of different ages and size within which bitterns are believed to thrive.

The work at Cley will involve digging large pools within the reed bed to provide new sources of food for the birds. Dykes are also to be cleared to help to stop reed beds drying out. The area of reed beds is also to be extended into agricultural land and over disused mineral workings.

Outdoors, Weekend page 11

DAVID C. FRITTS/OSF



The bittern, reduced to about 15 breeding pairs in this country, is the first species to be targeted by a project to help endangered breeds

Missing species never to be seen again

THE United Kingdom has lost 150 animals and plants this century, ranging from lichens to butterflies and birds (Nick Nuttall writes). Some animals, such as the osprey and the white-tailed eagle, have been reintroduced from the Continent, but many of the lost species can never be reclaimed.

David Attenborough, the naturalist and television programme-maker, said: "At least half were found only in the United Kingdom and have therefore been lost to the world for ever."

The full list has been compiled by groups that include the RSPB and the World Wide Fund for Nature to remind the Government of its wildlife and biodiversity commitments made at Rio de Janeiro three years ago.

Until 1983, visitors to Widewater Lagoon at Shoreham, West Sussex, could have marvelled at Ivell's sea anenome, *Edwardsia ivelli*. The fawn and orange-spotted marine animal, less than an inch long and sporting 12 tentacles, has vanished from its only known home, the victim of pollution or the loss of its shrimpy food source. Dr Paul Cornelius, of the Natural History Museum in London, said: "It may exist as spores but people have looked very closely on several occasions and failed to find it."



A rare mouse-eared bat and the black-veined white butterfly, unseen in Britain since 1925

He believes the loss of a single species should be deeply regretted. "It would take a new Earth and a new Universe to be created for it to be replaced," he said.

A similar act of creation would also be needed for some of the 59 spiders and other insects, including the delicate black-veined white butterfly, *Aporia crataegi*, not seen in Britain since 1925.

More than 50 species of algae, including the slimy fruited stonewort, are also believed to have disappeared, with seven mosses and 13 flowering plants. Nearly 50 fungi and slime moulds have been lost to pollution and the destruction of ancient meadows. Slime moulds feed on bacteria and their loss may make trees more vunerable to infection.

The loss of parasitic fungi, several of which are believed to have also disappeared because of the use of pesticides, may appear cause for few tears. But Dr Roy Watling, of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, says: "You get a knock-on effect. The fungus may be the special food source for a beautiful butterfly or a hideous beetle, and you have killed a whole ecosystem."

Many lost species are humble creatures such as ground beetles, species of wild bee, burrowing wasps and flies, including the dainty, or Norfolk damselfly, which was recorded as extinct in 1957.

Others are more conspicuous. Blair's wainscot, a moth, was last recorded in 1966 after its only known site on the Isle of Wight was destroyed by draining and burning for agriculture.

Gary Roberts of Butterfly Conservation says that the large tortoiseshell was so common in the last century that Victorian collectors believed its homes were too numerous to record. But the butterfly, a lover of sheltered wooded areas, was declared extinct in the British Isles two years ago.

The mouse-eared bat joined the funeral procession three years earlier. The females in Britain's last colony in West Sussex all vanished in 1974 and the last male died in 1990 aged 19. The reason the females suddenly died could have been the felling of a single tree in which they were breeding.

Burbot, a once common eel-like fish in eastern England, was declared extinct in the late 1970s. It is believed to have suffered from overfishing by anglers and by pollution. The Kentish plover, which once bred around Dungeness, has been lost as a British bird since the 1930s.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Charter flights ban smoking

The seven biggest charter airlines are to ban smoking on all holiday flights of under six hours from November 1, accounting for 90 per cent of holiday routes.

Seven charter airlines accounting for 95 per cent of all charter seats have already agreed to the ban: Britannia, Air 2000; Air UK Leisure; Monarch; Excalibur; Airworld and Airtours International.

M-way arrests

Four people were arrested in protests over tree-felling on the planned route of the M77 extension in Glasgow. About 300 police and 300 security guards protected tree cutters.

Officer attacked

A 23-year-old police officer was in a serious but stable condition in hospital after being attacked by two men while on patrol in Greenwich, southeast London.

Sheriff to rescue

Nottingham has got a new sheriff after fears that the post would be unfilled when four councillors turned it down. He is Roy Greensmith, 65, a Labour councillor for three years.

Sinking feeling

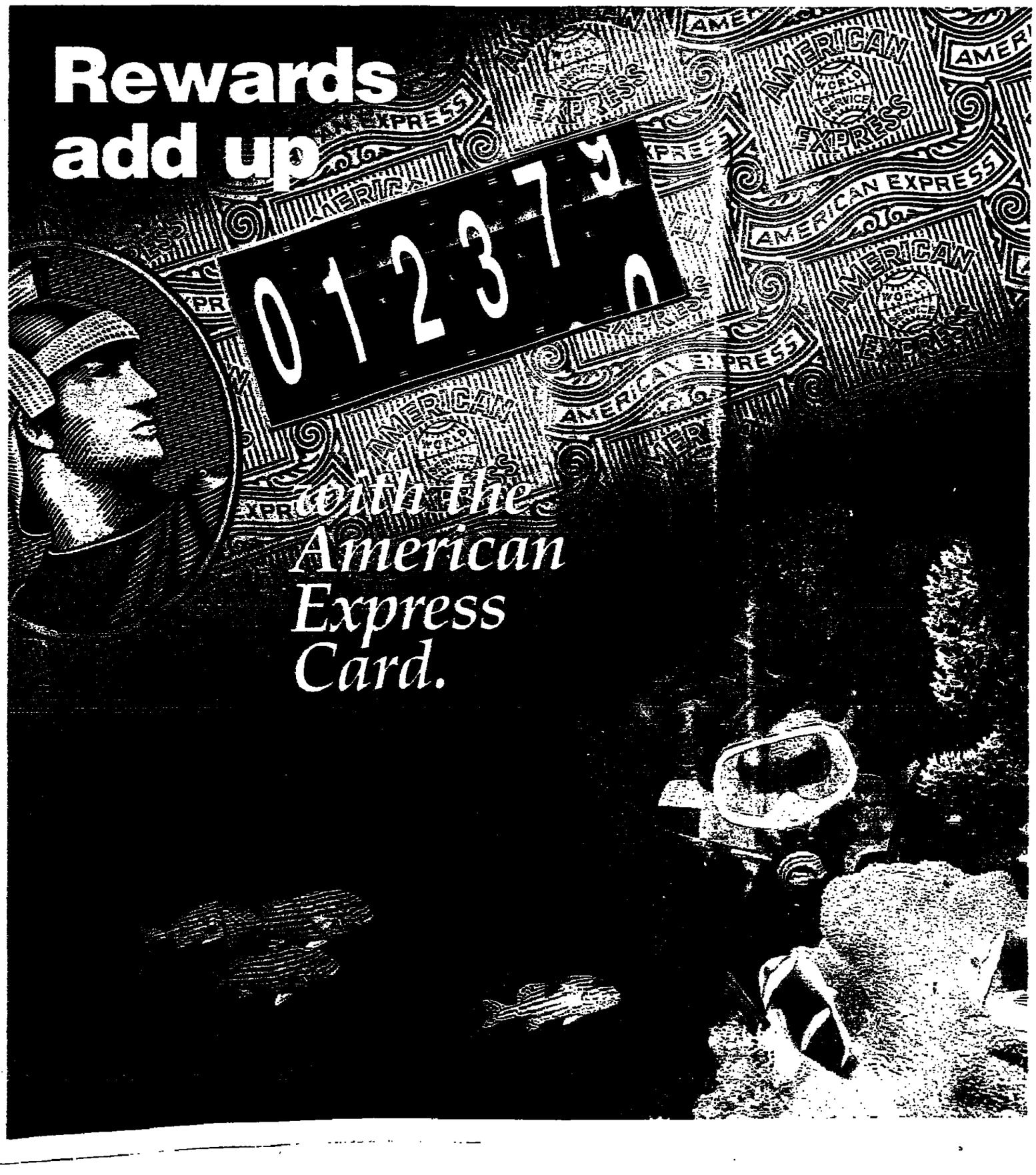
Housework is a health hazard, according to a *House Beautiful* survey, which says that "everyone should be aware of the impact household chores can have on their bodies".

Garden arsenal

George Jennings, who lives near an army training area at Otterburn, Northumberland, has dug up a bomb fuse and 2,000 machinegun bullets dating from 1937 in his garden.

Falcon in a flap

A dentist has fitted a falcon that damaged its beak with a plastic replacement. Ian Watkins had been approached by George's owner, Sean Taylor, a vet, of Burnley.



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Councils ready to fight Gummer on new shires review

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

THE Association of County Councils said yesterday that it would take the Government to court if it tried to bring in new guidelines for the fresh review of much of shire England announced this week.

John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, has said he will issue "new guidance" to the reconstituted Local Government Commission before it carries out the review he has ordered in up to 17 areas. Last year the High Court said that the Government had acted illegally in issuing guidelines instructing the commission to opt for all-purpose unitary authorities. If Mr Gummer tries to reissue similar guidelines, the association will challenge them in the courts again.

Baroness Farrington of Ribbleton, the association's chairman, said that the review would cost a great deal of money. "It is amazing that at a time when, on the Government's own admission, local authorities' finances are very tight, it is proposing to spend yet more money on the review of local government," she said. "All of the costs mean diverting resources from frontline services.

County treasurers affected by the review gave warning that it would cost hundreds of thousands of pounds. Richard Paver, treasurer in Northamptonshire, said: "We have just been forced to cut £20 million from our budget and now we are going to have to spend time and effort on something that we thought was behind us. It is very destabilising."

Officials in Cambridgeshire, which now has to prepare for another review in Peterborough and a possible review in Huntingdon, was even more gloomy. "This will cost us money at a time when we have been forced to cut £10 million from our budget," a spokesman said. "This is a huge waste of precious resources at a time we can ill-afford it. After four years of waiting we now find that the uncertainty is going to continue. This makes long-term planning impossible and is ruining the morale of the staff."

Sir John Banham, who resigned as chairman of the commission when Mr Gummer ordered the fresh review, said yesterday that he fell foul of the Government "because I listened to the people rather than to politicians with vested interests".

He said that he had made his recommendations to preserve the staus quo in most of England only after the most intensive consultation process. "My advice to my successor, whoever that is, is to listen to the people and not to the politicians."

Tony Travers, page 16
Letters, page 17

JAMIE WISEMAN



Kenneth Clarke doing an interview in York after his Radio Newcastle gaffe

Chancellor drops a clanger over closed steelworks

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND PAUL WILKINSON

KENNETH CLARKE blundered yesterday by praising the performance of a steelworks in the North East that was closed 15 years ago. The gaffe by the Chancellor during a BBC Radio Newcastle interview left him wiping egg from his face for the rest of the day.

He had spoken of Consett in Co Durham as having one of the best steelworks in Europe. Minutes later, and uncorrected by a cruel interviewer, he spoke of the "success of Consett".

Consett closed in 1980 with the loss of 4,000 jobs, an issue of abiding sensitivity in the region. It was only after the presenter recalled the demise of Consett that Mr Clarke explained that he was talking about the steelworks at Redcar, Cleveland.

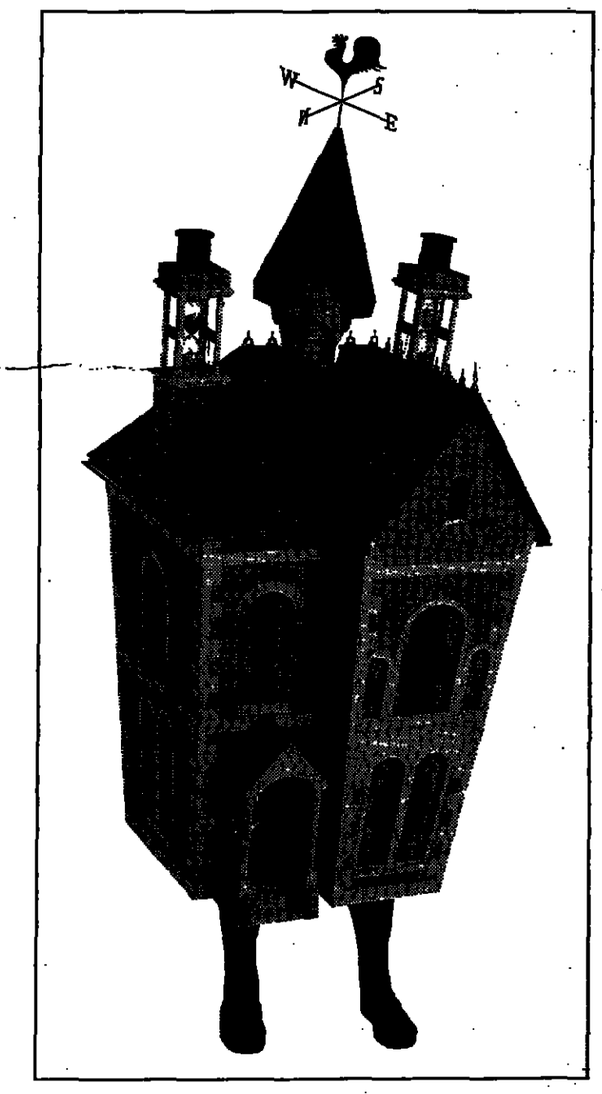
For the rest of the day derision was heaped upon the hapless Mr Clarke. "These people have closed down so much of British industry that they cannot be expected to remember all of it," Brian Wilson, Labour trade and industry spokesman, said.

Kevin Earley, deputy leader of the staunchly Labour Derwentside council, which includes Consett, said: "Does he think Swan Hunter on Tyneside is still open and also Easington colliery?"

Jack Cunningham, the Shadow Trade Secretary, said: "If the people of northern England needed any further convincing that the Tory Government has lost touch with reality, Kenneth Clarke has provided it." Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrat deputy leader, said: "The Tories do not know one end of the North East from the other."

Pressed on the incident later Mr Clarke said: "It was a slip of the tongue. I just got the two towns mixed up. Anyone who says I am unfeeling towards the North East because of this is completely daft."

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One in 10 staff sick daily at NHS trust

BY PAUL WILKINSON

UP TO 400 employees of a health trust in northwest England are reporting sick every day, mainly because of stress. It is setting up a trauma support group to counsel overstretched staff.

The North Mersey Community Trust, which covers four hospitals in the Liverpool area, caring mainly for elderly or mentally ill patients, is spending £38,000 a week on arranging cover for employees on sick leave. Up to one in nine of the 3,500 staff is off on any one day. Many work in the community as district nurses, psychiatric nurses and health visitors.

Sian Thomas, the trust's assistant chief executive, said "It is causing us obvious problems in arranging cover. We are having to spend around £2 million a year to make sure we can cope with the serious drop in numbers. That does not take into account the drop in activity in the work the staff carry out, or the drop in the numbers of people we can see. The real figure could be much higher.

"This issue is something which we must address immediately, so that we can reduce sickness and plough the £2 million into other areas of health care. We are working closely with staff side representatives to address the problem.

"We do recognise that not all problems are internal; staff may also have problems in their personal lives with which they may need help and support."

The Royal College of Nursing said that questions needed to be asked about why the sickness rate was so high. A spokeswoman said: "The staff are working in extremely pressurised conditions, and I know they feel terrible when they are forced to take sick days because they know they are just putting their colleagues under even more stress."

Joe Benton, the Labour MP whose Bootle constituency is served by the trust, said: "The very nature of these jobs makes them difficult and the staff must be helped to overcome difficulties."

Top judge criticises legislative 'torrent'

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

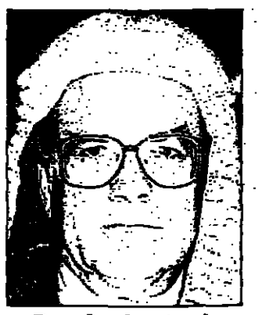
THE Government was criticised by a senior judge yesterday for the "torrent of legislation" it has inflicted in a short space of time on the criminal justice system.

Lord Justice Rose, a Court of Appeal judge, said he did not suggest that any of the many changes had been wrong or undesirable; that was a matter for the Government, he said. "Nor do I question the right of the Government to enact through Parliament as much legislation as it wishes."

Lord Justice Rose said he did, however, question the "wisdom of producing such a torrent of legislation in so short a timespan that the criminal justice system has difficulty in absorbing it".

The judge was speaking at a conference in London of the Criminal Justice Consultative Council, an umbrella body of which he is chairman. He went on to call for a "period of calm and consolidation" for those who were doing their best to make the system work. "A criminal justice system that is suffering from legislative indigestion is not likely best to serve the public in that fundamental aim of responding properly to the needs of victim and wrong-doer," he said.

Lord Justice Rose said that between 1925 and 1985 there had been six criminal justice acts, an average of one every ten years. Since 1986 there had been six more, one every 18 months, as well as legislation affecting children, drugs, road traffic and bail and three separate versions of police codes of practice.



Rose: legal system is suffering indigestion

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Guy's reprieve likely as Bottomley is told to delay overhaul

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

GUY'S HOSPITAL is likely to win a reprieve after a report yesterday recommended delaying the closure of its accident and emergency department until at least 1999.

Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, is under pressure to agree to the delay, which would push the closure beyond the next election. Labour has pledged to impose a moratorium on further closures in London until another assessment has been made of the capital's health needs.

Guy's, one of the country's most important teaching hospitals, is threatened by plans to end its role as an acute general hospital and concentrate services at another London hospital, St Thomas's.

The change of heart by the Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham health commission comes after a three-month consultation in which 50 meetings were held and more than 2,500 written submissions received. More than a million people signed a petition objecting to the accident and emergency department's closure.

Martin Roberts, chief executive of the commission, said yesterday: "We remain convinced that the changes we have proposed are required to secure good quality services in the long term, but we now believe that the pace of change needs to be slowed to allow proper implementation."

The delayed timetable was necessary to reassure the public that alternative services were available but that would depend on Mrs Bottomley providing extra funds. "We recognise this may have implications for other parts of the NHS," he said.

Tessa Jowell, a member of the cross-party Save Guy's campaign, said: "We are absolutely thrilled. It means the health commission has taken seriously the business of public consultation and listened to the concern of local people."

Margaret Beckett, the Shadow Health Secretary, said: "The new timetable shows we were right to argue against the closure of Guy's accident and emergency department. It also shows we were right to call for a moratorium on all bed closures in London until the evidence on which they are based has been thoroughly re-examined."

The delay must be approved by the health commission's board on Tuesday before being sent to South Thames Regional Health Authority and from there to Mrs Bottomley for her decision. The timetable could prove attractive to ministers as a way of taking the heat out of the NHS debate in advance of the election.

A Health Department spokesman said it would be "over-optimistic and misleading" to say Guy's was reprieved. "I don't think you can take it as read that ministers will accept the health commission's recommendation."



The picture that is being removed, top, in favour of the modern illustration, above

Regimental picture falls victim to Ulster peace talks

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A PRINT of British soldiers patrolling the republican Ardoyne district of Belfast has been removed from public view in deference to the Ulster peace process.

The scene showing men from the Green Howards during a 1971 tour in Northern Ireland, in which they lost five soldiers, has been replaced by a modern illustration of the raising of the regiment in 1688.

The decision by civic leaders in Northallerton, North Yorkshire, which has strong links with the unit, provoked a sharp response from Lieutenant-Colonel Neil McIntosh, the regimental secretary. "If they have done this because of what is happening in Northern Ireland today then I think they are very wrong. We might just as well remove any picture showing scenes from the Second World War because the Germans and the Japanese are now our friends."

The print is taken from one of two paintings commissioned by the regiment from David Shepherd to mark the tour. The original is with the 1st Battalion in Germany. Copies were presented to towns in North Yorkshire, as the Green Howards draw much of their strength from the county and have the freedom of Northallerton.

There are no plans to take down the Richmond copy, which hangs in the council offices. Dennis Potts, 82, a councillor in the town for 49 years, said: "They would take it down over my dead body. I can only think Northallerton have had some kind of aberration."

Jane Harvey, the mayor of Northallerton, described it all as "a storm in a picture frame". She said "If we have offended anyone then I unreservedly apologise. We were offered the other picture and decided it was more suitable.

"It was in our minds that there are no longer any troops on the streets of Belfast and it seemed more appropriate to have a picture of the beginnings of the regiment in the town where its band played for the last time before disbandment."

Authors say Jesus was a Buddhist

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

JESUS was a Buddhist, according to a book by two German authors to be published later this month.

Elmar Gruber and Holger Kersten argue that the large amount of Buddhist philosophy in the New Testament suggests that Jesus might have been deeply influenced by Buddhism, and was even a Buddhist himself.

In *The Original Jesus*, they cite direct parallels, such as the Buddha's statement that: "Whosoever sees the Dharma, sees me," and Christ's statement: "He that seeth me seeth Him that sent me" (John xii, 45). "Buddhist elements in the New Testament are not the *result of chance," they say. "They were disseminated by* Jesus himself, so that it can be stated: Jesus was not a Christian, he was a Buddhist."

Mr Kersten, a specialist in religious history, and Dr Gruber, author of several books and scientific articles, say that Jesus was brought up by the Therapeutae, who they claim were missionaries from the Theravada school of Buddhism. They say his education was continued by the Essenoi and Mandaeans, who they say were also influenced by Buddhism.

The theory was dismissed as speculative by theologians. Steve Jenkins, spokesman for the Church of England, said: "If he started out as a Buddhist he didn't die as one. Anyway, he said he was Jewish."

The Right Rev Geoffrey Rowell, Bishop of Basingstoke and a leading church historian, said: *"I think it is a highly speculative theory based on no substantial evidence. Scholars* have speculated that there may be links between Buddhist and Christian monasticism but that comes about centuries after Jesus."

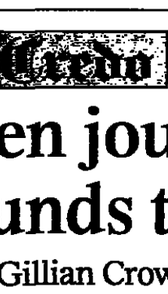
Credo

Lenten journey resounds to joy

Gillian Crow

"HAVE a joyful Lent!" Those words, spoken to me with exuberance recently by a fellow Orthodox, might seem a contradiction but they sum up so beautifully our Church's vision of the great fast. That vocabulary of joy, beauty, exhortation and vision is the substance of our Lenten pilgrimage towards Golgotha and the empty tomb.

My friend was about to set off on a journey to his native Greece. Lent is an inner journey towards God, beginning with a metanoia, or change of heart, a change of direction away from our accustomed self-centred preoccupations towards what should be our native home, the divine presence.



It is something of an eruption, like the spring shoots breaking out from the dark earth into the sunshine. It is the sudden realisation of better things, a brighter path to follow. The common perception of Lent, as a season of guilt and gloom, that speaks only in negative terms, is false. But the daringly positive action of turning Godwards in a sacrificial way has the sharpness of cautery.

To leave behind customary self-promotion or mere indifference and to set out on a path of self-examination leading to self-offering is, like any birth, painful, but it is also a moment of joy, the beginning of growth and the promise of fulfilment. In that pain of honest judgment we discover the wonderful picture of ourselves as we could be, as we will now struggle to be.

Lent is a letting go of worldly impedimenta, leaving us free to take up our cross and follow Christ. His invitation was to a dedication unto death, but a death bursting with new life at the core of each of us, so that we can learn to shine with the glory of the Holy Spirit. It is to be filled with the great joy of the apostles at the Ascension, as they returned to Jerusalem to begin their new lives as Christ's body on earth.

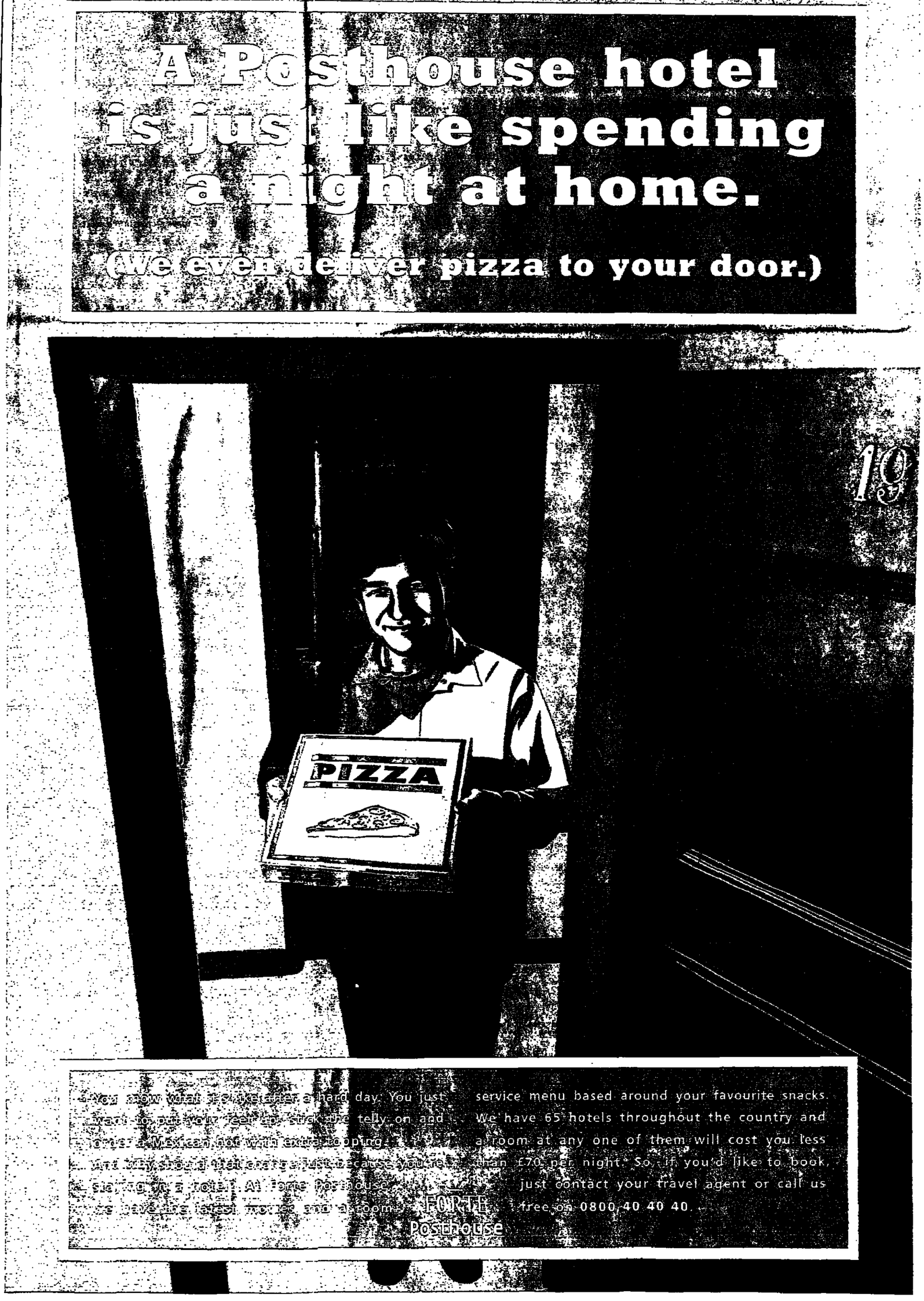
Unimpeded but not empty-handed, for we are commanded to take up the challenge of the cross. Our initial change of heart, the repentance born of seeing ourselves wanting in the divine light, calls us to determination and struggle to become as God intended us to be, a source of joy to him. Tradition has given us the two tools of prayer and fasting, hallowed by Christ himself, as our companions. They enable us to enter body and soul into a deepening communion with God. As we journey through Lent in this way, our sights must always be on our destination — Easter, the overflowing of joy of the resurrection, for which our Lenten struggle is foretaste. That can only be attained by way of Golgotha, our participation in Christ's death through our own death to all that is alien to the will of God.

This paradox of pain and joy has sometimes been called bright sadness or sad brightness, the realisation of humanity as we find ourselves and as we could be. But it is the joy which prevails, the paschal joy which is the essence of Christianity.

Have a joyful Lent! May we all take those beautiful words to heart.

□ *Gillian Crow is diocesan secretary of the Russian Orthodox Church in Great Britain.*

At Your Service, Weekend, page 2



Petrol firms dismiss green claim for new supermarket fuel

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

MOTORISTS visiting a supermarket chain's filling stations today will be able to buy a new fuel described as the greenest in Britain. But petrol companies say Tesco's launch of low-benzene unleaded is merely a marketing ploy.

Clean-air campaigners say that the launch will confuse the petrol-buying public even more. It comes after rows over the green merits of leaded or unleaded petrol and the dangers of diesel fuels.

The new petrol contains 1 per cent benzene, a cancer-causing chemical. About 78 per cent of the benzene found in the air comes from vehicles and is linked with triggering smog on sunny days.

Aromatics, a group of chemicals also found in fuel, emit benzene when the petrol is burnt. Tesco claims its new fuel contains about 25 per cent aromatics, compared with more than 30 per cent in rival petrols. The fuel is also claimed to contain less sulphur, the substance linked with acid rain.

The company, which has produced a leaflet eulogising the new petrol's environmental credentials, plans to have the fuel at 222 forecourts by the end of the year. Dr Richard Pugh, Tesco's technical director, said that the petrol, which is being supplied from an undisclosed continental source, was "a major breakthrough" in improving air quality.

Shell and Jet say that low-benzene fuel has been available for some time and that their petrols already contain less than 1 per cent benzene. A spokesman for the UK Petroleum Industries Association also said that measuring the exact levels of substances found in fuels was fraught with difficulties.

The National Society for Clean Air, which represents councils, health bodies and air quality experts, fears the move will confuse and mislead the public. Tim Brown of the society said yesterday that the fuel, which costs 2p a litre more than standard unleaded, might reduce emissions but would play little or no role in improving air quality.

A spokesman for the RAC said that the supermarket's move should be applauded but that the benefits were far less than claimed.

The legal limit for benzene in unleaded fuel is 5 per cent. Most unleaded petrols range between 1.8 and 2.3 per cent. Shell said the average level of benzene in its fuel was less than 1 per cent last year and Jet claimed 0.5 per cent.

Oil companies, who believe the new fuel may be imported from Finland, want more details on how it has been refined. A petrol company source said: "It may be that more energy is needed to make this petrol, which means you get more emissions of gases such as carbon dioxide at the refineries."

MG fans make a beeline for new classic

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

THE MG, Britain's best-loved sports car, is back, with buyers clamouring for a model that will not be ready until the summer.

Demand is so great for the two-seater that Rover has set up a "hotline" to answer questions from those who want to order the car even though they have been unable to see pictures of it, published today. What they will find is a modern evocation of the cars which became a legend, the octagonal badge famous the world over for the past 70 years.

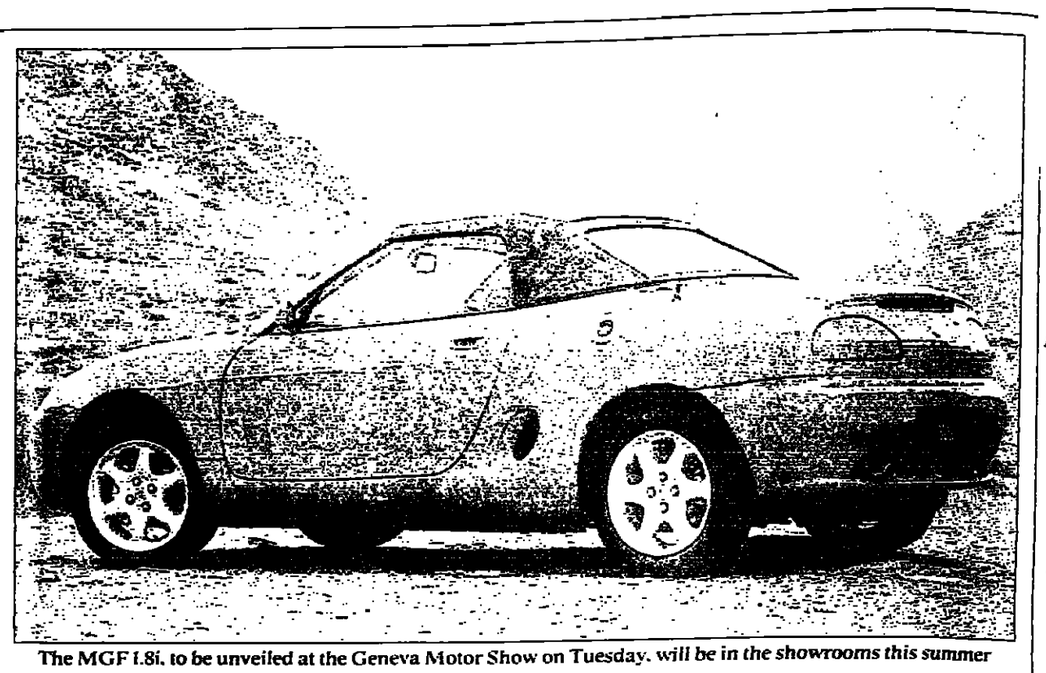
The grille harks back to the MGB, the car regarded by enthusiasts as the last true MG, which was killed off by British Leyland in 1980. A succession of saloons carried the badge until Rover made a limited edition of the RV8 recently, based on design of the MGB. The RV8 had a powerful 3.5-litre engine and cost more than £26,000 — a price not in the spirit of the original "cheap and cheerful" MGs.

The MGF to be unveiled at the Geneva Motor Show on Tuesday will be priced so that ordinary motorists can enjoy the glamour of driving a convertible with a famous badge. There are two versions: the 1.8i at £16,000 and a more powerful 1.8i VVC at £18,500. The Rover-built K-series engine is mounted in the middle of the car, just behind the two seats and in front of a small boot. The dashboard will provoke comment among enthusiasts with its white speedometer and rev counter dials.

Rover is recruiting 300 new designers, with production scheduled to increase by over 50 per cent within five years. The £1.5 billion investment budget for that period will go up by 25 per cent to develop a range of new cars now that the company's 15-year co-operation with Honda of Japan is in effect over.

BMW is due to announce results this month which should show its new British acquisition made profits of £80 million last year. John Towers, Rover's chairman, said yesterday that Rover could be making 750,000 vehicles a year, split between the cars division and the Land Rover business, by the turn of the century, compared with 480,000 last year.

Rover's return, Car 95, page 1



The MGF 1.8i, to be unveiled at the Geneva Motor Show on Tuesday, will be in the showrooms this summer

Loud snorer died after 'simple operation'

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A LOUD snorer who had a simple operation after complaints from his wife developed a chest infection and other fatal complications, an inquest was told yesterday.

Simeon Leschnikoff, 56, a graphic designer of Otford, Kent, went into the Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, on October 17 last year for laser treatment to his palate. His wife Ann told Southwark Coroner's Court: "For the year or 18 months before he went to hospital, we were sleeping in separate rooms. It was causing quite a bit of ill-feeling."

Mr Leschnikoff's GP referred him to Graham Buckley, an otolaryngologist, who performed the surgery as well as electric shock treatment to nasal blood vessels.

After the surgery, Mr Leschnikoff complained of chest and stomach pains. After further surgery he died on December 4.

Mr Leschnikoff had a lung infection, which may have been present before surgery, and this developed into septicaemia, caused a build-up of gases and ruptured his bowel. Sir Montague Levine, the coroner, adjourned the inquest to hear other medical evidence.

Salesman fined over useless diet pills

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A MAN who once passed off tea as a slimming aid was fined £2,000 yesterday for another bogus claim.

Alan Hadfield claimed a pill he sold would speed up fat-burning no matter how much was eaten. But tests showed Thermoslim was 60 per cent inert filler material. The rest was dietary fibre, spearmint flavouring and traces of cellulose. The pills were made for 65p per pack by a Lancashire firm and sold for £25.

Ed Chicken, for the prosecution, told Harrogate magistrates that Hadfield had directed his tricks at vulnerable people. His claims for the pill were "totally untrue".

Hadfield, 47, of Audenshaw, Greater Manchester, admitted supplying products with a false trade description and incorrect labelling.

David Burton, for Hadfield, said he accepted that using the pills to burn fat was nonsense. He intended them to be used as part of a calorie-controlled diet and taking them would have a psychological effect. He said they made the body lose fluid and the cellulose acted as an appetite suppressant.

In October 1993 Hadfield appeared at the court to admit claiming slimming properties for a herbal tea.

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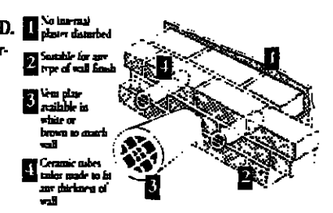
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'The country is crying out for wild animals to be treated with respect and compassion'

Anti-hunt MPs scent eventual victory in long campaign

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

MPs FROM all parties made impassioned speeches yesterday in support of a ban on fox-hunting, stag-hunting and hare-coursing, condemning the activities as "cruel and barbaric sports".

Although pro-hunting MPs had said that they would not vote against the second reading of the Labour MP John McFall's Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill, they turned out in force to defend "country pursuits" and made it clear that they are determined to block the Bill in committee.

By 9.30am the Chamber was packed. Mr McFall, opening the debate said: "I have no wish to interfere with reasonable and widely acceptable methods of pest control." But he said that the Bill would attack deliberate and unnecessary acts of brutality by the wilful use of dogs, which "involved hounding animals to exhaustion and death".

He branded fox-hunting a "gruesome sport" that caused the deaths each year of tens of thousands of the animals and an unknown number of terriers that battled underground with foxes. When asked by Tory MPs how he could know about the suffering when he had never seen any blood sports, he said that he was proud of the fact.

Rattling off statistics and surveys, Mr McFall said that even in the countryside 60 per cent of people wanted hunting banned and 80 per cent of county councils had banned hunting on their land. Farmers could not pretend that it was an effective method of pest control when some hunters' encouraged a high fox population by providing "cosy, artificial breeding dens" and feeding them with dead chickens and sheep. Less than 2 per cent of the lambs lost each year were killed by foxes.

Mr McFall dismissed claims that banning fox hunting would mean thousands of hounds having to be put down. They could be used instead for drag-hunting, in which the hounds follow the trail of a scented piece of cloth.

Condemning hare-coursing, Mr McFall said the police and the National Farmers' Union had reported cases of gangs of men raiding farms to course hares with greyhounds. The animals, he said, were in danger of dying out.

"It is clear the country is crying out for wild animals to be treated with respect and compassion. It is time for wild animals to be granted the basic protection to that provided 84 years ago to their domestic kin," he concluded.

The former cabinet minister Tom King immediately disagreed, basing his judgment on more than 25 years in his constituency of Bridgewater, where several hunts are established, and on his experience as a farmer. Mr King said he believed that Mr McFall's Bill had been written by the League against Cruel Sports and warned him that some of its supporters "have a rather different agenda to you".

THE DEBATE

People in the countryside who hunted were closer to the life-and-death cycle. They were not usually evil people although he conceded that there had been some "grim occasions" when stags had been hounded onto roofs and into the sea.

"Why is it that Exmoor has deer and Dartmoor has none? Can it just be that Dartmoor has no hunting, and no organisation, and no sympathy of the people of the moor who are actively concerned in the maintenance of the deer?" Calling for tolerance, Mr King said: "I am under no delusions that the people for whom I am advancing a case today are a minority. But it is their way of life, it is dear to them, it is part of the structure of the countryside in which they live."

Tony Benn (Lab, Chesterfield) pointed out that public opinion had changed rapidly in the three years since the last debate on hunting and that most children cared passionately about animals and the environment. Mr Benn told Mr King: "It isn't that anyone wants to stop you from enjoying yourself — drag-hunting must be just as much fun. The reality is that cruelty for fun is no longer acceptable to the overwhelming majority of people in this country."

> 'Cruelty for fun is no longer acceptable to the majority of people'

Hunt saboteurs were presented "as if they were hooligans", said Mr Benn. "But the saboteurs are there to protect animal life and change only happens when people do something. Remember votes for women, abolition of chimney boys and the end of apartheid. To present them as if this was a new creeping intolerance led by passion is incredible. The passion is in those who dress up in red coats and get on horses and kill animals."

Michael Colvin, (C, Romsey and Waterside) asked him: "Was it just pure coincidence that the day the poll tax rioters were burning down Trafalgar Square, not one single hunt in this country was sabotaged?"

Sir John Cope (C, Northavon), like many Tories, said that he supported the Bill's general cruelty provision for wild animals but not the ban on hunting. "I believe that, properly conducted, hunting is, by comparison with other methods, a humane way of killing foxes," he said. He told Mr Benn the animal rights movement was the "only single-issue campaign to have spawned a violent terrorist wing" and added: "I have no doubt that this attack on hunting, if it were ever successful, would lead straight on to attacks on shooting, fishing and other equestrian events. It could even lead to attacks on the keeping of pets."

But the anti-hunting campaigner Roger Gale (C, Thanet N) made it clear that many Tories were no longer part of the squirearchy and condemned the hunting, shooting and fishing tag. He highlighted the "long tortuous process" involved in digging out a fox gone to ground. He said the terriers sent into the hole very often dragged out the frightened animal by its muzzle before it was killed with a spade. The procedure was barbaric for the 20th century.

The Liberal Democrat benches were also divided. Sir David Steel (Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale) said that he disapproved of hunting but he believed very firmly that it was a matter for the individual and not the law. A ban on hunting would be the "thin end of the wedge" and would mean considerable destruction to the rural economy.

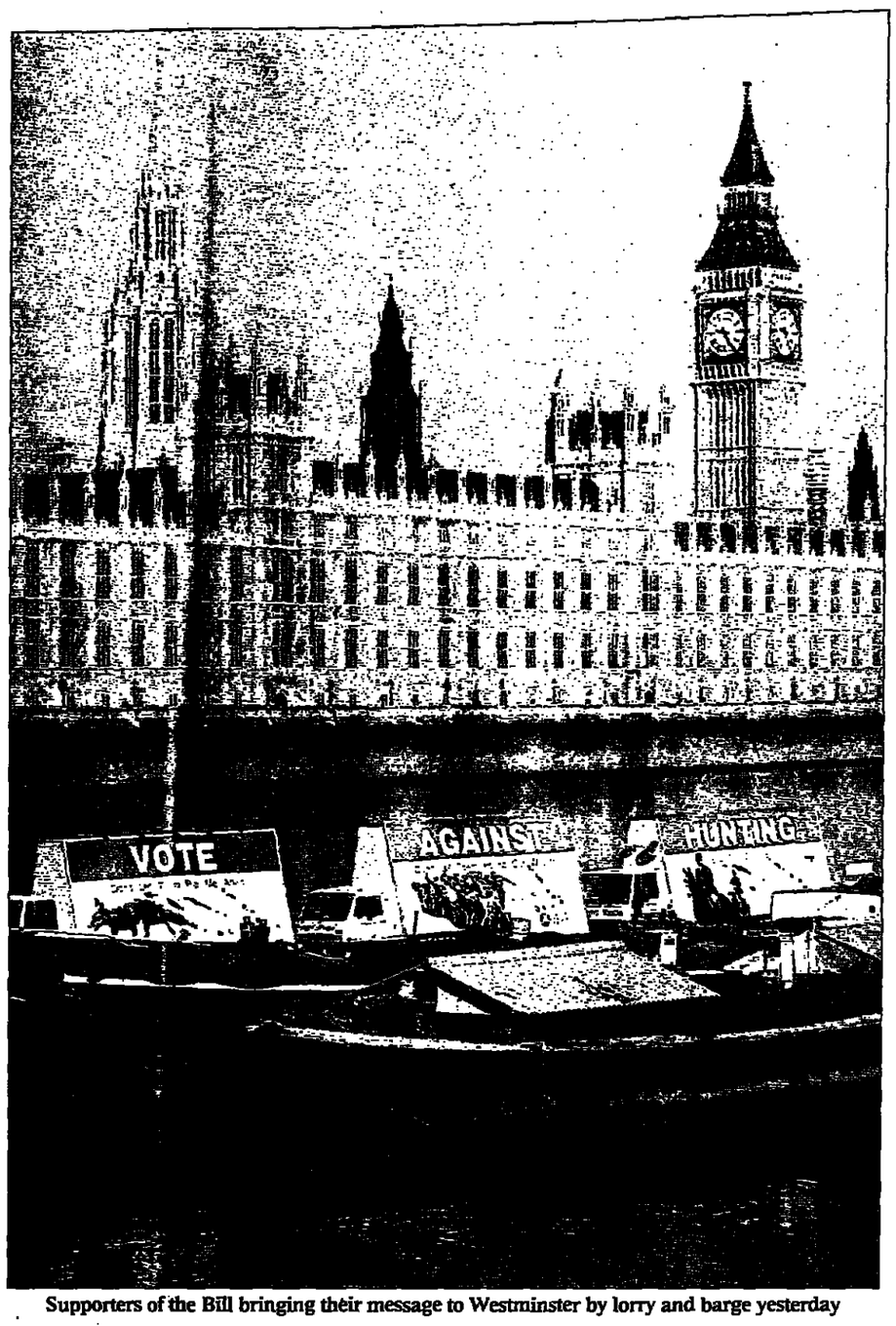
However, Sir David eventually voted for the Bill because he said that he favoured the first clause, which stops unnecessary cruelty to hedgehogs and squirrels. He hopes that the anti-hunting measures will be dropped in committee.

Simon Hughes (Lib Dem, Southwark and Bermondsey) supported the Bill, emphasising that fox-hunting was not necessary to kill foxes for food or keep their numbers down.

Kevin McNamara (Lab, Hull N), who presented the last anti-hunting Bill, said that it was immoral to hunt animals for fun. Unlike Mr McFall, he had watched hare coursing and he described seeing a hare "with the hind legs in the mouth of one hound and the head in the mouth of another being pulled around, screaming. That is what you, who speak in favour of hunting here today, are defending."

The former Cabinet minister John Patten (C, Oxford W and Abingdon) said that he had no vested interest in blood sports but gave an eloquent speech warning the House to tread carefully. "We should strongly avoid narrow-minded intolerance which could forced people unnecessarily into becoming criminals and outcasts. We should resist the temptation to insist everyone must conform to what a majority opinion poll says — simply because a majority opinion poll may have a particular view on one particular day," he said.

John Major had already made it clear that he did not intend to support the measure, although he has never supported blood sports.



Supporters of the Bill bringing their message to Westminster by lorry and barge yesterday

The Home Office minister Nicholas Baker, speaking for the Government, said that it had traditionally adopted a position of neutrality towards all matters concerning field sports. But the Government believed the Bill would impose "onerous" responsibilities on the rural communities making it difficult to control pests.

For the Opposition, Elliot Morley said that Labour had already promised a free vote on the issue and would introduce the necessary legislation if it was approved. "The pro-blood sports lobby in this House no longer has a majority to defeat a measure like this and what they don't want to do is demonstrate their weakness. If this Bill goes through to a second reading it will be the first time this House has approved a measure to ban hunting of this type. It will be a clear and unequivocal signal that this House wants to see the end of hunting and other acts of cruelty to wild mammals," he said.

"In the not too distant future, people will look back with amazement that this House has allowed people to inflict deliberate cruelty and stress on wild animals in the name of entertainment in the latter part of the 20th century."

The Whipless Tory Euro-rebel Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton SW) said that he had hunted foxes all his life even though he knew that some of his constituents disapproved of the sport. His complaint was that the Bill could end up like the Dangerous Dogs Act, done because of public pressure rather than good common sense.

> 'A ban on hunting would be the thin end of the wedge'

Lawrence Cunliffe (Lab, Leigh) said he had been forced to hunt and set snares as a child with his grandfather but the memories of being forced to bludgeon baby weasels to death had haunted him for 50 years. "I can still hear the echoes of those penetrative shrills as those animals died," he said.

Nigel Forman (C, Carshalton and Wallington) said he would back the second reading of the Bill because he believed that the measure needed closer examination. But he added: "I suspect the real objective of many proponents of this legislation is first to outlaw hunting and then probably to go on to have a go at shooting and fishing. I wonder, as a layman, where it will all end."

Tony Banks (Lab, Newham NW) made numerous interventions in defence of the Bill and promised that opponents of fox-hunting would never give up. "Our determination is absolute," he said.

The anti-hunt MPs later refused to concede that it would be a hollow victory if the Bill was blocked in committee, saying that they regarded success in the vote as the beginning for the end of hunting and a signal that legislation would eventually be carried.

Country sports lovers rally in protest

BY LIN JENKINS

TENS of thousands of supporters of country sports gathered at rallies throughout Britain yesterday to send a clear message to Parliament not to introduce legislation to curb their activities.

The protest was timed to coincide with the Commons vote on John McFall's Bill.

It marked the first time that disparate rural groups, not normally given to self-promotion, joined forces to plead to be allowed to continue to be the custodians of the countryside. They argued that animal rights activists, whether misguided or malicious, would if successful in their aims harm tradition, the rural economy and the eco-system as well as infringing on personal liberty.

At the South of England showground at Ardingly, West Sussex, where about 8,000 people gathered, Richard Course, a former chairman and executive director of the League Against Cruel Sports for 11 years, argued against a ban.

The Enfield Labour councillor, addressing a constituency which is not his natural one, said it was time somebody addressed the argument from the fox's point of view. While dogs killed foxes instantly, those caught in snares suffered, as did those wounded with pellets, who might take days or even weeks to die.

He said that while he did not support foxhunting, the Bill, which was drafted by the League Against Cruel Sports, was being promoted by "calculating hypocrites who dressed it up as animal welfare". If people wanted to simply get at the aristocracy, there were better ways, he said.

Sir Stephen Hastings, an MP for 23 years and former chairman of the British Field Sports Society (BFSS), told the gathering that country people were difficult to organise but there was now a "mass resistance to this preaching, bullying and harassment."

Nicholas Kester, who held a hooded lanner falcon, principally flown at partridge but sometimes at vermin quarry such as magpies, argued that country sports people were conservationists. He said the goshawk had been reintroduced simply because of falconry. "We find it extraordinary that a Bill should be introduced to ban coursing with hare, but permit us to fly hawks at hare. We are here in support because we know we would be next."

Farmers, the BFSS, the British Association of Shooting and Conservation, the Salmon and Trout Association, the Guardians of Game Fishing, the British Falconers Club, the National Coursing Club, landowners and local hunts joined forces in mounting the nine rallies across the country.

The campaign, which concedes it was slow to respond to growing public support for the anti-hunting argument, has enlisted celebrities such as Ian Botham, Jimmy Hill and Chay Blyth to their cause in order to attract more publicity.

But yesterday's rallies were designed for the ordinary country sportsmen. John Barrow, director of the Handicapped Anglers Trust, which provides nearly 50 specially designed boats enabling over 9,000 handicapped people a year the opportunity to fish, said the Bill would be a threat to all rural sports.

THE MPS WHO VOTED FOR THE BILL

The Conservative MPs who voted for the second reading of the Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill were:

David Amess (Basildon), David Atkinson (Bournemouth E), Sir Andrew Bowden (Brighton Kemptown), Sir Graham Bright (Luton S), Stephen Day (Cheadle), Nirsnjan Deva (Brentford and Isleworth), Tim Devlin (Stockton S), Terry Dicks (Hayes and Harlington), Hugh Dykes (Harrow E), David Evennett (Erith and Crayford), Nigel Forman (Carshalton and Wallington), Roger Gale (Thanet N), Peter Griffiths (Portsmouth N), Jerry Hayes (Harlow), Sir Terence Higgins (Worthing), Robert G Hughes (Harrow W), John Horam (Orpington), Gwilym Jones (Cardiff N), Greg Knight (Derby N), Jim Lester (Broxtowe), Sir Peter Lloyd (Fareham), Piers Merchant (Beckenham), Sir Fergus Montgomery (Altrincham and Sale), Steven Norris (Epping Forest), Phillip Oppenheim (Amber Valley), Dr Robert Spink (Castle Point), David Sumberg (Bury S), Sir Teddy Taylor (Southend E), Cyril Townsend (Bexleyheath), John Ward (Poole)

LABOUR:

Diane Abbott (Hackney N and Stoke Newington), Irene Adams (Paisley N), Nick Ainger (Pembroke), Robert Ainsworth (Coventry NE), Graham Allen (Nottingham N), Donald Anderson (Swansea E), Janet Anderson (Rossendale and Darwen), Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw), John Austin-Walker (Woolwich).

Tony Banks (Newham NW), Harry Barnes (Derbyshire NE), Kevin Barron (Rother Valley), John Battle (Leeds W), Hugh Bayley (York), Tony Benn (Chesterfield), Andrew Bennett (Denton and Reddish), Joe Benton (Bootle), Gerald Bermingham (St Helens S), Roger Berry (Kingswood), Clive Betts (Sheffield Attercliffe), Paul Boateng (Brent S), Roland Boyes (Houghton and Washington), Keith Bradley (Manchester Withington), Nicholas Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne E), Richard Burden (Birmingham Northfield), Stephen Byers (Wallsend).

Ann Campbell (Cambridge), Ronnie Campbell (Blyth Valley), Dale Campbell-Savours (Workington), Dennis Canavan (Falkirk W), Jamie Cann (Ipswich), Malcolm Chisholm (Edinburgh Leith), Michael Clapham (Barnsley W and Pontefract), Dr David Clark (South Shields), Eric Clarke (Midlothian), Tom Clarke (Monklands W), David Clelland (Tyne Bridge), Ann Clwyd (Cynon Valley), Ann Coffey (Stockport), Harry Cohen (Leyton), Michael Connarty (Falkirk E), Frank Cook (Stockton N), Robin Corbett (Birmingham Erdington), Jean Corston (Bristol E), Jim Cousins (Newcastle upon Tyne Central), Tom Cox (Tooting), John Cummings (Easington), Lawrence Cunliffe (Leigh), Jim Cunningham (Coventry SE), Dr Jack Cunningham (Copeland).

Alistair Darling (Edinburgh Central), Bryan Davies (Oldham Central and Royton), Denzil Davies (Llanelli), Ron Davies (Caerphilly), Terry Davis (Birmingham Hodge Hill), John Denham (Southampton Itchen), Don Dixon (Jarrow), Frank Dobson (Holborn and St Pancras), Brian Donohoe (Cunninghame S), Jim Dowd (Lewisham W), James Dunnachie (Glasgow Pollock).

Angela Eagle (Wallasey), Derek Enright (Hemsworth), William Etherington (Sunderland N), John Evans (St Helens N).

Derek Fatchett (Leeds Central), Mark Fisher (Stoke Central), Paul Flynn (Newport W), Derek Foster (Bishop Auckland), John Fraser (Norwood), Maria Fyfe (Glasgow Maryhill).

Sam Galbraith (Strathkelvin and Bearsden), George Galloway (Glasgow Hillhead), Mike Gapes (Ilford S), John Garrett (Norwich S), Bruce George (Walsall S), Neil Gerrard (Walthamstow), John Gilbert (Dudley E), Dr Norman Godman (Greenock and Port Glasgow), Thomas Graham (Renfrew W and Inverclyde), Bernie Grant (Tottenham), Nigel Griffiths (Edinburgh S), Wyn Griffiths (Bridgend), Bruce Grocott (The Wrekin), John Gunnell (Leeds S and Morley).

Peter Hain (Neath), Mike Hall (Warrington S), David Hanson (Delyn), Peter Hardy (Wentworth), Harriet Harman (Peckham), John Heppell (Nottingham E), Keith Hill (Streatham), David Hinchliffe (Wakefield), Margaret Hodge (Barking), Kate Hoey (Vauxhall), Jimmy Hood (Clydesdale), Geoff Hoon (Ashfield), George Howarth (Knowsley N), Dr Kim Howells (Pontypridd), Doug Hoyle (Warrington N), Kevin Hughes (Doncaster N), Robert Hughes (Aberdeen N), John Hutton (Barrow and Furness).

Eric Illsley (Barnsley Central), Adam Ingram (East Kilbride).

Glenda Jackson (Hampstead and Highgate), Helen Jackson (Sheffield Hillsborough), David Jamieson (Plymouth Devonport), Greville Janner (Leicester W), Barry Jones (Alyn and Deeside), Jon Owen Jones (Cardiff Central), Lynne Jones (Birmingham Selly Oak), Martyn Jones (Clwyd SW), Tessa Jowell (Dulwich), Gerald Kaufman (Manchester Gorton), Jane Kennedy (Liverpool Broadgreen), Piara Khabra (Ealing Southall).

Helen Liddell (Monklands E), Ken Livingstone (Brent E), Tony Lloyd (Stretford), Eddie Loyden (Liverpool Garston), John McAllion (Dundee E), Calum Macdonald (Western Isles), John McFall (Dumbarton), William McKelvey (Kilmarnock and Loudoun), Andrew Mackinlay (Thurrock), Gordon McMaster (Paisley S), Denis MacShane (Rotherham), John McWilliam (Blaydon), Max Madden (Bradford W), Alice Mahon (Halifax), Dr John Marek (Wrexham), David Marshall (Glasgow Shettleston), Eric Martlew (Carlisle), Michael Meacher (Oldham W), Alan Meale (Mansfield), Alan Michael (Cardiff S and Penarth), Bill Michie (Sheffield Heeley), Andrew Miller (Ellesmere Port and Neston), Austin Mitchell (Great Grimsby), Rhodri Morgan (Cardiff W), Elliot Morley (Glanford and Scunthorpe), Alf Morris (Manchester Wythenshawe), Estelle Morris (Birmingham Yardley), Marjorie Mowlam (Redcar), George Mudie (Leeds E), Chris Mullin (Sunderland S), Paul Murphy (Torfaen).

Gordon Oakes (Halton), Mike O'Brien (Warwickshire N), William O'Brien (Normanton), Bill Olner (Nuneaton).

Ian Pearson (Dudley W), Tom Pendry (Stalybridge and Hyde), Peter Pike (Burnley), Greg Pope (Hyndburn), Ray Powell (Ogmore), Bridget Prentice (Lewisham E), Gordon Prentice (Pendle), Dawn Primarolo (Bristol S), Ken Purchase (Wolverhampton NE), Joyce Quin (Gateshead E), Stuart Randall (Hull W), Martin Redmond (Don Valley), Dr John Reid (Motherwell N), Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry NW), Barbara Roche (Hornsey and Wood Green), Allan Rogers (Rhondda), Jeff Rooker (Birmingham Perry Barr), Ernie Ross (Dundee W), Ted Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney), Joan Ruddock (Lewisham Deptford).

Brian Sedgemore (Hackney S and Shoreditch), Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield), Peter Shore (Bethnal Green and Stepney), Clare Short (Birmingham Ladywood), Dennis Skinner (Bolsover), Andrew Smith (Oxford E), Chris Smith (Islington S and Finsbury), Llewellyn Smith (Blaenau Gwent), Cathy Sotley (Hammersmith), Nigel Spearing (Newham S), John Spellar (Warley W), Rachel Squire (Dunfermline W), Gerry Steinberg (Durham City), Roger Stott (Wigan), Dr Gavin Strang (Edinburgh E), Gerry Sutcliffe (Bradford S).

Ann Taylor (Dewsbury), Jack Thompson (Wansbeck), Stephen Timms (Newham NE), Paddy Tipping (Sherwood), Don Touhig (Islwyn), Dennis Turner (Wolverhampton SE).

Keith Vaz (Leicester E).

Sir Harold Walker (Doncaster Cent), Joan Walley (Stoke N), Robert Wareing (Liverpool West Derby), Andrew Welsh (Angus E), Malcolm Wicks (Croydon NW), Alan J Williams (Swansea W), Alan W Williams (Carmarthen), Brian Wilson (Cunninghame N), Audrey Wise (Preston), Tony Worthington (Clydebank and Milngavie), Jimmy Wray (Glasgow Provan), Tony Wright (Cannock and Burntwood).

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS:

David Alton (Liverpool Mossley Hill), Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed), Malcolm Bruce (Gordon), David Chidgey (Eastleigh), Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey), Charles Kennedy (Cromarty and Skye), Liz Lynne (Rochdale), Diana Maddock (Christchurch), David Rendel (Newbury), Sir David Steel (Tweeddale, Ettrick and Lauderdale), Matthew Taylor (Truro).

OTHERS:

Margaret Ewing (SNP Moray), Sir James Kilfedder (UPUP Down N) The Rev William McCrea (DUP Ulster Mid) Peter Robinson (DUP Belfast E), Andrew Welsh (SNP Angus E).

☐ The four tellers, Kevin McNamara (Lab, Hull N), Eddie O'Hara (Lab, Knowsley S), Colin Pickthall (Lab, Lancashire W), and Jeremy Corbyn (Lab, Islington N) were all supporters of the Bill.

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Calls mount for Nato chief to quit as Belgian bribes scandal taints Atlantic alliance

Claes retreat brings respite



BRUSSELS FILE
by GEORGE BROCK

FEW JOURNEYS can have come as such a relief to a politician in need of a change of scene as Willy Claes's flight to Canada last Wednesday. He crossed the Atlantic in a trip that had been scheduled for some time to discuss such deeply serious matters as the Nato budget. Behind him, the Secretary-General left an alliance headquarters full of people laying bets on how long he can keep his job.

Mr Claes has given his name to "Willygate", the long-running corruption investigation which used to be known to Belgians as the Agusta scandal, after the Italian helicopter firm alleged to have paid bribes to Belgian politicians. Now, police interest in Mr Claes has turned what had been a complicated imbroglio understood by a handful of experts into an international embarrassment for Belgium.

Nato diplomats mutter privately that an Atlantic alliance struggling to make sense of its new relationship with Eastern Europe and a troubled Russia cannot afford to have its top civilian official distracted by trying to clear his name. Belgian newspapers plead with Mr Claes to resign for the sake of his country and although America and Germany have made supportive noises. Dutch ministers have said openly that his situation is scarcely tenable.

Why should the Dutch be so quick to say the unthinkable? Bets are being laid on who might succeed Mr Claes should he be forced to step aside. A shortlist could be quickly assembled from the candidates disappointed last summer. The Dutch Government then wanted Hans van den Broek, currently its European Commissioner, to have the job and was already aggrieved because Ruud Lubbers, a former Prime Minister, had not been made President of the Commission.

The Americans asked Douglas Hurd if he were interested, but he was not: Malcolm Rifkind's name was briefly floated.

The German Government, which objected to Mr van den Broek last time, is privately hinting that he would be an acceptable candidate if a vacancy were to occur now. Mr van den Broek would thus be a powerful candidate and, if he left the European Commission, his job looking after European Union relations with Eastern Europe — feverishly coveted by Sir Leon Brittan — might once again be up for grabs. Could Sir Leon's heart be beating a little faster this weekend?



Willy Claes, who flew to Canada amid a debate over a possible successor

Camera captures the Gaullist touch

EUROPEAN Union ministers have been allowing television cameras into the occasional "discussion". At a Finance Ministers' meeting recently, the cameras revealed the scorn with which French officials sometimes treat their ministers. Edmond Alpandéry, the minister, was in the chair with Pierre de Boissieu, the French Ambassador to Brussels, beside him. M de Boissieu is De Gaulle's great nephew and behaves like it. The camera caught the minister scrabbling among his papers for his script. M de Boissieu told him in no uncertain terms how to find it and rapped imperiously on the paper in the manner of an irritated schoolmaster. Seconds later, both men reverted to their public roles: the minister in charge and the envoy in respectful silence.

Federalism strains the ties that bind

THOSE who lead British MEPs in the *European Parliament live with the* constant nightmare that some of them will do or say something that embarrasses the party's leadership in Britain. In both the Conservative and Labour parties, the ties that bind the MEPs to London will be strained this month.

Tony Blair goes to Barcelona next week to meet fellow European socialists. The 1996 conference on the Maastricht Treaty is on the menu and by the end of the month, Socialist MEPs are supposed to agree what they want from it. They began with a paper written by Elisabeth Guigou, queen of the French Euro-Socialists, who wants a large push towards federalism. Pauline Green, a former policewoman from London who leads the Parliament's Socialist bloc, has rewritten Mme Guigou's prescriptions almost out of existence.

Tories from Westminster as well as Strasbourg are to mingle with their continental equivalents in Brussels later in the month. Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Christian Democrat in charge, is drafting federalist language designed to embarrass the British. The Tories have deployed Sir Geoffrey Pattie, a former minister, to water down the text. Stand by for tears before bedtime.

Mafia war fears grow after news of Andreotti trial

FROM PHILIP WILLAN IN ROME

ITALIANS were yesterday digesting the momentous decision to send Giulio Andreotti, Italy's most influential post-war politician, for trial in Palermo on charges of having belonged to the Cosa Nostra.

Thursday's ruling by Judge Agostino Gristina came as a severe blow to the man who was seven times Prime Minister and 20 times a minister in a political career spanning half a century. It coincided with what investigators fear could be the beginning of a new Mafia war: two young men were shot dead in Palermo on Thursday and a third man was gunned down in a builder's yard in the same city yesterday.

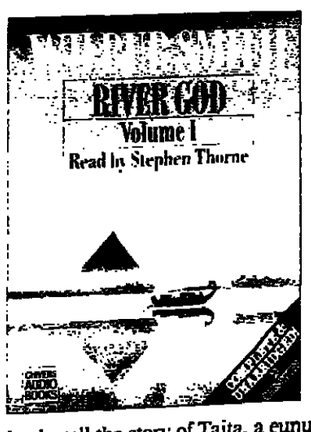
Television news programmes showed footage of one victim, Salvatore Vitale, 39, as his body was being loaded into a coffin in the violent, Mafia-dominated quarter of Brancaccio. "It's a Mafia war," said Leoluca Orlando, the Mayor of Palermo. "A period has begun in which the Mafia system of power appears to be seeking new military bosses and new political and financial allies in response to the growing successes of the state in the battle against organised crime."

Signor Andreotti admitted in a television interview yesterday that he was disappointed the preliminary hearing had not gone in his favour. "But when I saw the files, already a lorry-load, grow week by week, I realised that it was becoming more difficult technically for things to be settled," he said. "Here, there is an equation: Christian Democrats, or part of the Christian Democrat Party, equals Mafia. The final prosecution case is that the guilty party is my political faction, which is a very curious affirmation."

Enzo Biagi, a columnist, wrote in a front-page editorial for *Corriere della Sera*: "If he manages to prove his innocence we will have another martyr, because he has lived through terrible days, which have weighed in a devastating manner on his family. If he is shown to be guilty, it will mean that as well as being governed by many thieves, we were also governed by the accomplices or the instigators of assassins." Signor Biagi said the Andreotti trial amounted to the trial of Italy: "We are all in it, as witnesses or as unwilling accomplices."

Meanwhile, a Senate vote on an emergency budget, expected yesterday, was postponed until Tuesday to allow more debate.

THE TIMES
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Buy one of the volumes of *River God* for £16.95 and for 20p you could hear Andrew Sachs read *A Handful Of Dust* by Evelyn Waugh (SAB 006 - £14.95 - 8 cassettes). This chronicles the affair between Lady Brenda Last, who has become bored with country life in her husband's Victorian Gothic mansion, and a totally worthless young man. What starts as a fashionable diversion turns into a series of calamities. Waugh declines to make any moral points in this tale of a broken marriage and carefully chronicles the comic and ridiculous aspects of human misfortune.

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Impoverished African democrats present challenge to social summit

FROM EVE-ANN PRENTICE IN BAMAKO

PRESIDENT KONARÉ of Mali, leader of one of the poorest countries on earth, is about to take on the world's richest and most powerful nations.

He seems undaunted by the prospect of tackling leaders such as President Mitterrand of France and President Yeltsin of Russia in Copenhagen at the United Nations social development summit on Monday. One hundred and twenty world leaders assembling in Denmark have given themselves the well meaning, but probably hopeless, mission of "eradicating poverty". As far as President Alpha — as he is known locally — is concerned, there is a danger that the summit will turn into yet another UN talking shop, leaving the real problems of African economic development and democracy unaddressed.

Speaking at his presidential palace high on a hill overlooking the Malian capital, Bamako, the President said he had almost refused to go to "another meeting where people will just talk". His misgivings may be well placed. Britain is not sending the Prime Minister or the Foreign Secretary: Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, the Minister for Overseas Development, will be the British representative. Washington is sending Vice-President Al Gore and Hillary Clinton, the President's wife. The official aim of the UN social summit is to "launch a co-ordinated attack on three profound social problems that imperil the peace and security of every nation: poverty, unemployment and social disintegration".

The UN General Assembly has even designated next year the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty. Yet a footnote to a UN announcement of next week's summit, beneath the confident headline "Historic Pact on Human Needs offered in Copenhagen" indicates why the summit's lofty aims are unlikely to be realised. "Disagreements remain in several key areas. The problems involve such questions as how to finance increased spending for social development, especially at a time of economic austerity in many donor countries."

Mali is a perfect example of the sort of country the summit is ostensibly being held to help — desperately poor but with a three-year-old democracy struggling to beat internal unrest. It needs all the help it can get, but knows it is unlikely to receive it.

The economic indicators can only give a glimmer of the human misery they represent for Mali's nine million citizens: a mere 5 per cent have access to electricity; fewer than a fifth of children go to primary school; and most scrape by on just over £200 a year. Most adult Malians, 65 per cent, cannot read or write. President Konaré, who came to power in June 1992 after the fall of the repressive military regime of Moussa Traoré, spoke amid 1960s decor in his palace, complete with cheap ochre-coloured sofas. "I don't want to beg or demand a redistribution in the world's wealth," he said, outlining the speech he will deliver in Copenhagen. "I refuse to accept that one million children in my country cannot read or write — and this five years before the end of the century. I refuse to accept that thousands of children are dying in my country for the want of cheap medicines."

Leaders of the poorest nations know they are unlikely to achieve any great breakthrough in Copenhagen but hope it will be an important forum for them to make their voices heard. They point out that even the richest countries are affected when poverty leads to unrest, citing Somalia and Rwanda as prime examples.



Konaré: countrymen live on £200 a year

Danish sex trade ready to cash in on UN

Copenhagen: The Danish sex trade is confident that some of the many visitors to the United Nations Social Development summit here will use its facilities (Christopher Follett writes). Strip clubs and escort agencies are extending their hours and hiring more girls to cope with the expected demand.

Escort agencies offering call girls plan to double their staff to 4,000 and strip clubs will open round the clock. "We have called in extra performers from Thailand, Eastern Europe and Britain. We are also advertising for more Danish girls," Marianne Gro, of the Wonder Bar strip club, said.

Distraught Russians grieve for shot TV presenter

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIAN politicians scrambled yesterday to make capital out of the murder of a popular television host, whose assassination this week has triggered an unprecedented wave of national remorse and soul-searching.

Thousands of Russians, some in tears, others simply looking distraught and shocked, turned out at the grim Soviet-era state television building in Moscow to lay flowers and pay their last respects to Vladislav Listyev, one of the country's best loved television personalities.

In numerical terms and in the very visible outpouring of grief at memorial services and vigils held outside the shot television personality's office and home, his death seemed to have shaken the nation more forcefully than the 11-week conflict in Chechenia. Muscovites said that they had not seen so many mourners since Andrei Sakharov, the dissident figure, died five years ago.

Police released two identikit pictures of the murder suspects, who they believed are professional hit men hired by the mafia. They ambushed Listyev as he walked up the stairwell to his flat in central Moscow on Wednesday night, shooting him twice and taking his briefcase, but leaving his wallet containing £937. It is widely assumed he was murdered because of his reforms to the state-owned television network, which involved cutting out advertising middlemen, whose sale of air time was worth hundreds of millions a year.

The killing appears to have triggered something of an identity crisis among a generation of young, self-assured and professional Russians who over the past five years have come to dominate Russia's flourishing private sector, particularly in the media.

For them Listyev's success as a television presenter symbolised that the post-communist generation of Russians could break with their Soviet past and begin to build a country where individual talent is rewarded. "The shot aimed at Vladislav Listyev was a shot at our freedom and civil dignity ... To me, he represented the symbol of new, honest and uncompromising journalism," Anatoli Chubais, the reforming Deputy Prime Minister, said. "This is precisely what certain forces in our society that killed the talented journalist do not want and fear."

The murder has attracted massive public attention, with normal television programming interrupted to discuss the killing and newspapers devoting their black-bordered front pages to the implications of the assassination.

Not surprisingly politicians have been quick to capitalise on the issue, and yesterday Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the ultra-nationalist leader, said that the assassination was further proof that President Yeltsin and the rest of the political establishment had to go. "We demand that the political authorities in Russia resign," said the leader of the extremist Liberal Democratic Party. "The authorities are incompetent, both in the White House (the Prime Minister's office) and the Kremlin."

Grigori Yavlinksy, the leader of the reformist Yabloko movement, said that the murder was a turning point for Russia, which had finally to tackle its greatest threat. "Either the country will conquer terror, or terror will conquer the country," he said.

However, many liberals fear that the assassination will simply assist the cause of reactionary political forces who could use the pretext of crime fighting to reimpose a police state. The daily *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* likened the murder to the 1934 assassination of Sergei Kirov, a senior Communist Party official, whose killing gave Stalin the pretext to launch the Great Terror.

Nikolai Svanidze, a television director, issued a warning that Russia's fledgling democracy was under threat. "There will be elections and people will follow the first bastard to say 'I will restore order, I will defend you'. And we, like a flock of scared sheep, will choose the wolf."

☐ **Berlin:** A Russian businessman was killed by an unidentified gunman in Berlin. Police suspected the Russian mafia was behind the killing of Belorussia-born Petr Leonchikov, 27. He was shot in the head and chest while he was parking his Mercedes in the prosperous Grunewald district. *(AFP)*

Leading article, page 17



A small boy takes a shine to the tassled shoes of the presidential guardsman on patrol at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in central Athens yesterday

Greece lifts 20-year veto to secure EU deal with Turkey

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

GREECE announced yesterday that it had lifted its veto on a customs union between the European Union and Turkey after securing all points it considered important.

The confirmation came as EU officials in Brussels struck a provisional deal, breaking more than 20 years of deadlock over the customs union and setting a date for starting membership talks with Cyprus.

Evangelos Venizelos, spokesman for the Greek Government, said in Athens that Greece was ready to accept the text and the common position on the customs union. "Greece is ready to accept it," Mr Venizelos said. "It considers the negotiations especially successful, securing all of the important points." He noted that the council of permanent representatives and the 15 member-states of the EU had made a commitment to start EU-Cyprus talks six months after an intergovernmental meeting that is planned for next year.

Greece has been using its power of veto over the customs union with Turkey as a lever to force the pace on opening EU accession negotiations with the divided island. "Our country has in its hand a specific trade off for Cyprus," Mr Venizelos said.

A customs union with Turkey would open up trade in a wide range of goods and services, unblock £596 million of aid for the country and tie it closely to Western Europe.

EU nations are also interested in access to Turkey's market of 60 million people and see Turkey as an important economic bridge to the Middle East and former Soviet republic in Central Asia.

The deal should be concluded by Monday. Turkish diplomats said Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister, was likely fly to Brussels to seal the agreement.

If the agreement goes ahead as planned, the customs union will come into force on January 1 next year. The EU was eager to clinch the deal to strengthen Turkey's links with Europe at a time of growing Western concern about the influence of Islamic fundamentalism there and in other Mediterranean nations.

Fugitive's papers forged

Madrid: A political storm was raging in Spain yesterday after the discovery that the extradition papers allegedly issued by the Government of Laos to hand over Spain's most wanted fugitive were forged (Edward Owen writes). Juan Roldán, 51, the former head of the Civil Guard who absconded ten months ago with an estimated £30 million, has been in prison since Spanish police brought him back to Spain last Tuesday.

Some lawyers believe he could be released if he has been detained illegally. Ana Ferrer, the investigating judge, has laid six charges against Señor Roldan for illegally obtaining funds during his six years as head of Spain's top security force.

Alan Bond to stand trial

Perth: Alan Bond, the Australian businessman, has been ordered to stand trial on fraud charges relating to the sale of a painting, Manet's *La Promenade*. The Australian Securities Commission charged Mr Bond in 1993 with four counts of fraud, but the case was delayed when Mr Bond's lawyers argued that he suffered depression, brain damage and memory loss, and by unsuccessful court appeals. *(Reuter)*

Mormon leader dies at 87

Salt Lake City: Howard W. Hunter, 14th leader of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or the Mormons, died yesterday, nine months after taking office. He was 87. The church said in January that he had prostate cancer that had spread to his bones. Gordon B. Hinckley, 84, is expected to succeed him. *(AP)*

Verdict awaited on Lyons mayor

Lyons: The corruption trial of Michel Noir, Mayor of Lyons, and Pierre Botton, his financier son-in-law, ended here yesterday with the judge announcing that he would deliver his verdict on April 20. The state wants an 18-month suspended prison sentence and a five-year ban on holding public office for M Noir. *(Reuter)*

Ardour cooled

Cairo: An accountant has been jailed for a month for accosting a woman out with her fiancé in a Cairo street and telling her: "Oh, you are so beautiful and delicious. You are much better looking than him." He was convicted of "offending a woman's modesty in a public place". *(AFP)*

Right's crusader strikes a nerve across France

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN CAEN

THE refreshing thing about Philippe de Villiers, presidential candidate and champion of France's Europhobic Right, is his disregard for the taboos that shroud the civil war in his own political camp.

"Balladur has had it. It's clear and irreversible. He's in a tailspin and the worst is to come." The line, uttered with a chuckle 15,000ft over Normandy, might sound like saloon bar punditry, but it carries weight coming from a man who rates at between 8 and 10 per cent in the polls. That figure makes Viscount Philippe Jolis de Villiers de Saintignon, 45, the provocateur of the middle classes, a factor to be reckoned with by Edouard Balladur and Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist front-runners fighting to succeed President Mitterrand.

Once dismissed as a reactionary gadfly, M de Villiers has been taken seriously since he teamed up with Sir James Goldsmith and Judge Thierry Jean-Pierre, the scourge of political crooks, and won 12 per cent of the French seats in the European Parliament.

A junior minister in the last Chirac-Balladur Government, M de Villiers is revelling in his role of prophet and crusading troublemaker. "Balladur was far out of his depth," he says on the flight to Caen. "He never understood what Chirac knows — that everything in politics comes down to a *rapport de force*."

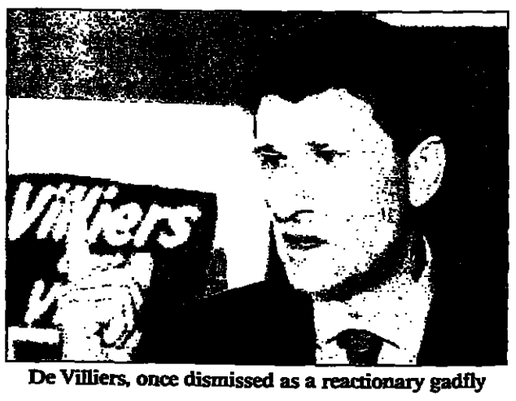
The grin flashes again as he muses on the alarm among ministers who deserted the party leader to back the Prime Minister. "All those people who betrayed Chirac are looking at Balladur and saying: 'It wasn't worth betraying Chirac for that.'" M de Villiers says he likes M Chirac personally, but this does not stop him calling him one of the "gerontocracy". This tribe of elders, he says, governs France like a corrupt club while throwing away national sovereignty to the bankers of Frankfurt.

He is appalled, he says, by the failure of the Gaullists and Lionel Jospin, the Socialist candidate, to tell the truth on Europe. They all want a federal superstate. Voicing an idea absent from mainstream debate in France, he warns: "Monetary union implies the transfer of sovereignty — in other words, our liberty."

Much of his thinking echoes Tory Eurosceptics and American Republicans. He rails against waste and wants to sack thousands of civil servants; he has a scheme for phasing out income tax; he wants curbs on immigration and rejection of "the sinister Schengen Treaty" on open European frontiers. He opposes abortion, favours the guillotine, and wants a return to family and community values. He differs from the "Anglo-Saxons", however, in opposing free trade. Echoing Sir James, he says Europe is doomed without protection from foreign labour. He later rouses a cheer from an otherwise docile audience in Caen when he notes that "Sixty Filipinos cost the same as one Calvados worker."

His thinking has struck a nerve across France, making him an idol among older, Catholic traditionalists who took a shine to the boyish aristocrat when he campaigned in the Maastricht referendum in 1992. It has also cast him and his Movement for France beyond the pale for an establishment which sees him as a dangerous demagogue. His enemies call him a cynic with a killer instinct and mutter that his private life — he is married with seven children — conflicts with his gospel of family values. He is a blast from France's pre-revolutionary past, they say, and his arguments against immigration make him a polite version of the Jean-Marie Le Pen and his National Front.

M de Villiers is angered by the comparison and experts say his support comes not, as M Le Pen's, from the working class fringes, but from disaffected Gaullist and centre-right supporters who blame Europe and the Americans for France's social malaise and high unemployment. Because of this, M de Villiers could end up a kingmaker if the two Gaullists win through to the second round run-off of the election on May 7.



De Villiers, once dismissed as a reactionary gadfly

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Israel warns US of 'terrible price' if Jordan aid cut

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

ANGERED by the threat of deep cuts in promised American aid to Jordan, Yossi Beilin, Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister, told the United States yesterday that it could pay "a terrible price" if it did not spend money to help countries involved in the Middle East peace process.

His comments came after telephone calls from President Clinton to Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister of Israel, and King Husain of Jordan following a Republican-dominated congressional subcommittee vote to cut US debt forgiveness to Jordan from $275 million (£171 million) this budget year to $50 million.

The White House meanwhile increased its pressure on Republicans to reverse their decision to cut the aid. After President Clinton issued a general warning against America's withdrawal from global affairs as the centrepiece of an important foreign policy speech, the Administration seized on the congressional decision as a prime example of a drift towards isolationism.

Mike McCurry, the White House Press Secretary, said that the consequences of such an action could result in renewed conflict between Israel and Jordan. "If we get into a situation where the United States, having made commitments to the Middle East peace process, is suddenly reneging on those commitments, it could be harmful.

"How much more expensive would it be to prepare for war than to deepen and nurture the bonds of peace that are now developing between Israel and Israel's neighbours?"

In Israel, Mr Beilin, refelecting concern in the Cabinet that the new American isolationism will put paid to any hopes that Syria can be persuaded to join the peace process, said: "There is a sort of lack of understanding regarding the terrible price, not only in money, that the United States could pay if, God forbid, there is another war in the region or in other regions, compared to the small sums being talked about for creating a better atmosphere."

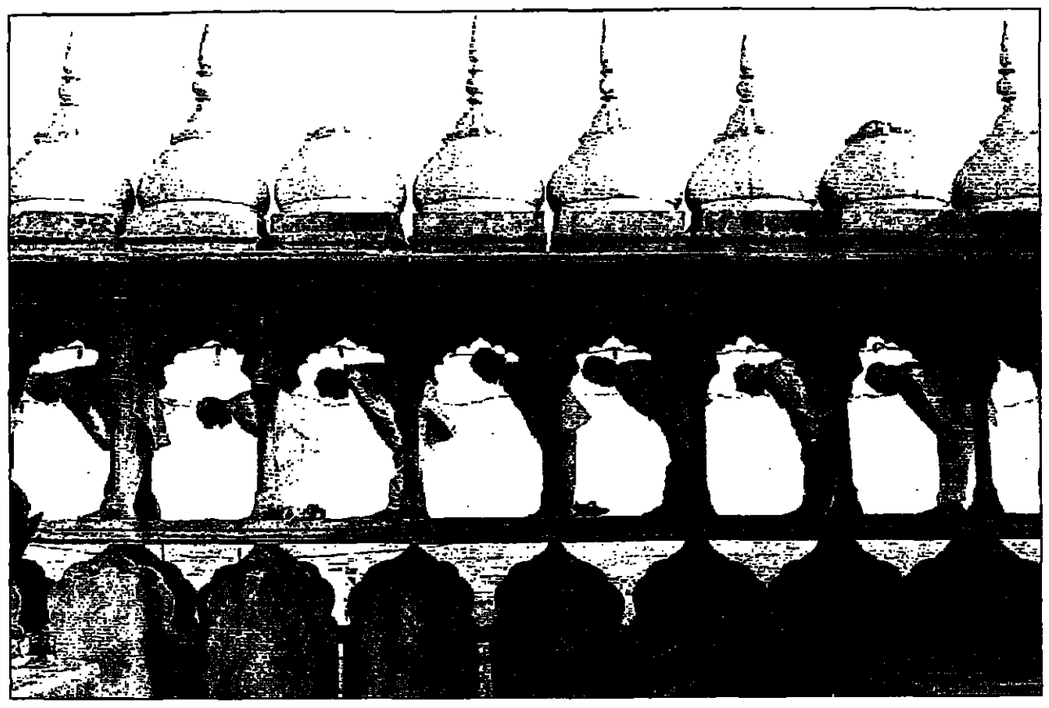
The bizarre sight of Israel pleading for financial benefits for Jordan, its enemy for 46 years, resulted from the conviction among Israeli ministers that the original Washington promise to erase the debt was one of the main reasons why King Husain showed such determination to ignore Islamic opposition and sign the peace treaty last year.

Israel Radio reported that Mr Clinton promised the Jordanian leader that American economic support for his kingdom would continue despite the congessional decison. Earlier, he told Mr Rabin that he would work with Senate moderates to block the cut if it passed the House of Representatives.

Mr McCurry said that Mr Rabin was "upset and somewhat alarmed" by the congressional decision to renege on promises to Jordan. He added that Mr Rabin had emphasised that it was in Israel's strategic interest "to see the benefits of peace accrue to the citizens of Jordan". In response, "the President told the Prime Minister in candour that we face a very tough audience now on Capitol Hill".

The Republicans have defended their efforts to cut aid as a reponsible attempt to fill the vacuum left by an indecisive Administration.

☐ **Amman:** King Husain, 59, who has had an operation for cancer, underwent throat surgery yesterday to remove a cyst affecting his hearing.



Holy fast ends for Muslims

Muslims worship in Jama Masjid, the main mosque in Delhi, to celebrate Eid ul-Fitr yesterday, marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Elsewhere in India, which has 110 million Muslims, the world's largest Islamic population after Indonesia, the national holiday, passed off peacefully (Christopher Thomas writes). In keeping with custom, Muslims were enjoined to set aside three kilograms of staple food, or its value, to give to the poor after fasting ended. Friday was declared Eid ul-Fitr after an imam announced the sighting of the Id moon. "May this festival strengthen mutual goodwill and inspire each one of us to follow the path of universal brotherhood," President Sharma said in a message.

Caution dominates Peking congress

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

AS UNCERTAINTY hangs over China, the annual session of the National People's Congress starts tomorrow, aiming to plot a tortuous path through the year ahead.

The 12 months may well see the demise of Deng Xiaoping, the paramount leader, and the emergence of a new leadership less committed to his reformist vision. Moreover, China has been mired in an intellectual copyright piracy feud with America and been involved with aggressive moves against neighbours in the South China Sea.

However, the parliamentary session is unlikely to tackle any of these problems head-on. "Don't expect any serious new initiatives at this time," one Western diplomat said yesterday. "With the health of Mr Deng in the balance, this is not the time for the congress to strike out in new directions. Everyone will be very cautious."

Despite a facade of unity, factions are quietly manoeuvring behind the scenes to succeed Mr Deng and his entourage. "It's a jostling for position rather than an overt power struggle," another envoy here said. "We won't see how fragile the situation is until Mr Deng goes."

The congress used to be called a rubber stamp parliament, approving decisions handed down by the Chinese Communist Party. In the past few years, it has shown a willingness to debate issues seriously, at least behind closed doors.

Diplomats believe that the most serious internal issue that will be tackled during the 14 days of deliberations — to be chaired by Qiao Shi, a Politburo member with close links to China's security apparatus but who nevertheless is considered a political liberal — will be the problem of corruption. Recent attacks on corrupt party officials have been made by Li Peng, the Prime Minister, and by Jiang Zemin, the party chief who is also Mr Deng's designated successor. Mr Jiang said this week that rampant corruption infecting government and party cadres could result in the party being swept from power.

Tribe seeks return of chief's head

Johannesburg: Weeks before the Queen visits South Africa, tribal leaders are asking Britain to return the head of one of their most famous kings, which they believe is being kept in England (Michael Hamlyn writes).

They say it was taken there 167 years ago, after one of the nine South African frontier wars between the British and Xhosa people of the Eastern Cape.

King Hintsa, acknowledged as paramount chief by 10,000 Xhosas in the late 1820s and early 1830s, was shot trying to escape after being defeated by British troops under Sir Harry Smith, in 1835. There is a strong belief among his amaRarabe tribe that after he was killed, his head was taken to London. Now the amaRarabe want the head back, for a traditional burial. President Mandela is expected to raise the matter with the Queen, who he greets in Cape Town on March 19.

America dashes Pretoria hopes of helicopter sale

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A DAMAGING dispute between Washington and Pretoria over arms sales policy looks set to scupper South Africa's chances of winning a £1 billion contract to sell up to 91 attack helicopters to the British Army.

Denel, the South African defence manufacturing company, is one of six contenders for the helicopter contract due to be announced in the summer. Denel has offered its Rooivalk (Red Hawk) attack helicopter for the British Army Air Corps.

To meet tough specifications laid down by the Ministry of Defence in London, Denel has asked the United States to supply a special gunsight for the Rooivalk which would be offered as an alternative to the domestic system which is not so advanced.

However, America has refused the request because the American Justice Department is involved in court proceedings against Armscor, the former South African armaments industry set up to circumvent international sanctions during the apartheid era. Seven South Africans have been charged with illegal export of American technology to Pretoria in 1981-1989.

The decision has provoked an angry response from Denel, which took over Armscor's manufacturing functions in April 1992 as a new state-owned company. Armscor is now the equipment procurement branch of the Ministry of Defence in Pretoria. A Denel official said yesterday that Washington had refused to recognise "that Armscor has nothing to do with us now". He said the US ban was "impinging" on relations between America and South Africa.

South African security sources, quoted in *Africa Confidential*, a specialist journal, said that Washington's decision to block the sale of the gunsight for the Rooivalk was made for short-term commercial reasons. One of the strongest contenders for the British Army helicopter contract is the Apache, built by the American firm, McDonnell-Douglas.

Today Thabo Mbeki, the South African First Deputy President, is due to arrive in Washington to put pressure on the Administration to reverse the decision. President Mandela has appealed personally to President Clinton, emphasising that an export sale of Rooivalks would create jobs for black people. Mr Mbeki is to see Al Gore, the Vice-President.

Denel was asked by the British defence ministry to bid for the contract only at a late stage because of the recognition that it was a highly versatile aircraft.

Mrs Mandela rallies the poor

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

WINNIE MANDELA yesterday vowed to fight the "charlatans and cowards" who she said were pursuing a vendetta against herself and other populist leaders of the African National Congress.

Mrs Mandela toured the poverty-stricken black township of Tembisa, east of Johannesburg, revelling in the mass support of her main constituency, the poor and the dispossessed.

She visited a number of houses, including one belonging to a staunch supporter who had been mysteriously shot dead overnight. Breaking her silence for the first time since she returned to South Africa to face accusations of corruption, she issued a statement through her lawyers, saying that "forces of reaction" were attacking her and other leaders.

"The fight against those who are perceived to be pillars of ANC mass support has now become obvious and transparent," she said. "In defence of the aspirations of my people, I am left with no choice but to take the challenge head on."

Earlier, Mrs Mandela, dressed in a blue silk boubou, a West African-style toga, appeared in court in Johannesburg at the start of the legal proceedings. She is trying to have a warrant which allowed police to search her Soweto house overturned. The hearing was adjourned until March 14.

☐ **Ouagadougou:** The elite of Burkina Faso are furious at Mrs Mandela for failing to attend a cocktail party in her honour (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

Mrs Mandela was in Ouagadougou, the capital, earlier this week to visit the Pan African Film Festival in her capacity as Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, but left after being ordered by Thabo Mbeki, South Africa's First Deputy President, to return home.

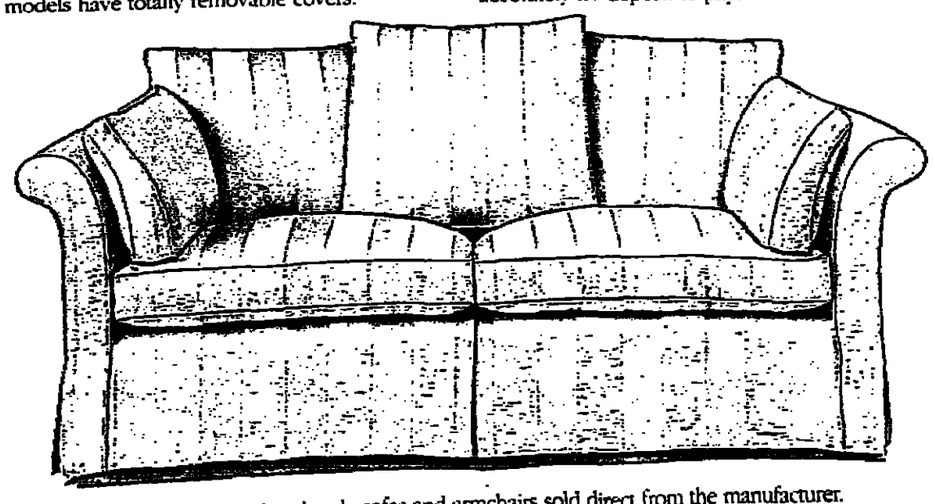
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ABTA No. 79655

Indiana senator poses new challenge to Dole following budget defeat

Lugar takes long shot at Republican candidacy

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON



Robert Dole, left, whose reputation tumbled yesterday, and Richard Lugar, who announced his candidacy

ALL senators supposedly see a president when they look in a mirror, and Capitol Hill's present incumbents are no exception. On Thursday night Richard Lugar of Indiana became the third — after Robert Dole and Phil Gramm — to announce his candidacy for the Republicans' 1996 presidential nomination.

The three men are undeterred by the fact that just one sitting Republican senator this century, Barry Goldwater, has won his party's nomination, but events earlier on Thursday demonstrated the handicap under which they labour.

Republican primary voters like ideological purists. To push legislation through the Senate requires compromise. Mr Dole, the Senate leader, offered the Democrats all sorts of concessions to win approval of the balanced budget constitutional amendment but still failed to deliver, with the result that his stock tumbled yesterday.

The Republican presidential market may be about to undergo a further upheaval. All signs from the West Coast suggest that Pete Wilson, the Governor of California, is preparing to run, and he boasts the nation's biggest and richest political base.

Mr Lugar, who is 62 and who announced his candidacy on CNN's *Larry King Live* show, is a long shot. He has an impressive record as an Oxford Rhodes Scholar, naval officer, businessman, highly-regarded Mayor of Indianapolis and Indiana's first four-term senator. He commands respect in Washington, but his platform seems unlikely to resonate with the party activists who choose the nominee.

He is running on his considerable foreign policy expertise when domestic issues dominate the political agenda. His fiscal conservatism is offset by an unfashionable social moderation. He admitted he would raise less money than his better known and better organised rivals, but insisted that did not disqualify him. "The thought that a $20-million (£13.3-million) or $25-million entry fee is required is obnoxious to the American people," he said.

Mr Dole received a small boost yesterday when Colorado's Ben Nighthorse Campbell, the first Native American senator, defected to the Republicans, stretching their majority to eight, but that was eclipsed by the fallout from the balanced budget amendment's defeat.

Most commentators agreed that had undercut Mr Dole's strongest claim to the Republican nomination — his ability as a savvy old leader and legislator to convert the Republican "revolution" from rhetoric to reality. Moreover Mr Dole's problems may soon deepen because the Senate is stalling at three other key elements of Newt Gingrich's *Contract with America* — middle-class tax cuts, limits on congressional terms, and a measure empowering the President to cut wasteful individual projects from congressional spending Bills.

To the extent Mr Dole fails to deliver, Mr Gramm's call for radical change gains appeal. The Texas senator yesterday moved swiftly to exploit Mr Dole's difficulties with a line designed to rouse party activists. "It's time to stop compromising and start fighting," he said.

In California, Mr Wilson has been contacting the main Republican donors, honing his message and dropping hints that he will stand.

"He's itching to run," said one close aide. His problem is that he was only re-elected Governor four months ago and would infuriate many Californian Republicans if he consigned the state to its Democratic lieutenant governor. Mr Wilson is the Republican the White House fears most. President Clinton cannot be re-elected without carrying California, and Mr Wilson's uncanny ability to spot and exploit "wedge" issues — crime, illegal immigration and now reverse discrimination — makes him a formidable campaigner.

He could also split the national Republican party as he has split California's. He supports gay and abortion rights and in 1991 enacted California's biggest tax increase.

Mexico's ruling party finds little to celebrate 66 years on

BY DAVID ADAMS, LATIN AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

WHEN President Zedillo took office three months ago Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party was riding the crest of a wave of new popularity after a year of political troubles.

As the party prepares to celebrate 66 years in power at the weekend, however, its officials are accused of involvement in two political assassinations, and the country is in no mood for festivities.

In a sign of just how bad things are, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the former President, who left office three months ago as an internationally respected statesman, announced that he was going on hunger strike until his name is cleared of any involvement in the killings. His brother Raúl is accused of masterminding the murder of the party's former secretary-general. Other party members are being investigated for the murder of its presidential candidate.

To its members, the party is the embodiment of the Mexican revolution of 1910-29 which gave birth to the modern state. To its enemies, it is a mafia-like family which has exercised an exclusive grip on power. Señor Zedillo, appears determined to break the hold of the family and to establish the rule of law. Some say he is the ideal man for the job because of his working class roots.

The party reportedly has so many skeletons in its closet, and was so riddled with the kind of corrupt practices necessary to stay in power for so long, that Señor Zedillo's clearing out of the stables could involve a brutal purge. Observers fear a backlash from party die-hards, who have long resisted reform. "It's very scary; it makes my blood go cold," said Fernando Estrada, a former congressman and highly respected adviser to the opposition National Action Party.

Some observers fear that Señor Zedillo may have underestimated the task and that the country could be heading for greater instability and violence. That is something Mexico can ill afford as the Government struggles to restrain a runaway economic crisis. The stock market has lost almost half its value and the peso has fallen more than 40 per cent, despite a $52-billion (£33-billion) international intervention by big banks and the United States Treasury.

In the southern state of Chiapas, the Government is far from resolving the 14-month Zapatista peasant uprising, and last month launched a military assault. This was called off, however, after the masked rebel leader known as Commander Marcos evaded troops.

Critics of the party's arcane and corrupt system of government would say the chickens are coming home to roost. They say it bungled the economic crisis and most blame Señor Salinas for building a house of cards of speculative foreign investment while ignoring the country's languishing production sector.



A shower of subatomic particles leaving a trail across a bubble chamber, and providing evidence for the existence of the most elusive of the building blocks of matter — the top quark. Two independent teams of scientists at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago have isolated the top quark, completing the theory of matter in the universe (Anjana Ahuja writes).

Of the six types of quark postulated — top, bottom, charm, strange, up and down — only the last two survived the Big Bang; the others have to be created artificially in collisions between beams of protons and antiprotons racing around a four-mile accelerator. Once created, the top quark decays almost instantly into cascades of other particles, whose tracks are captured in the bubble chamber.

'Greedy' lawyers in Rodney King case awarded £1m costs

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

ALMOST four years after Rodney King's brutal beating by police, the City of Los Angeles has approved a $1.7 million (more than £1 million) payment to his lawyers in the hope of closing once and for all the case that led to the city's devastating 1992 riots.

The riots were triggered when an all-white jury acquitted four white police officers accused of Mr King's beating, which was videotaped by a witness.

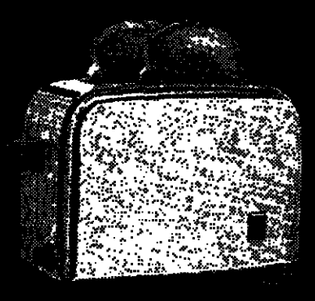
Two of the officers were convicted later during a second trial, after which Mr King sued the city.

In a marathon court struggle, watched nervously by local leaders, Mr King's lawyers demanded $56 million in damages, a sum which, if awarded, would have set a crippling precedent in a city where police brutality lawsuits have become everyday occurrences. Mr King was eventually awarded $3.6 million last year in a compromise which was praised by police and civil rights activists alike — but not by Milton Grimes and Steven Lerman, the defence lawyers who protested that the award did not cover their costs.

Mr Grimes, one of California's most prominent black lawyers, had demanded $4.4 million to cover his costs alone. But he earned the ridicule of his peers by claiming reimbursement for the suits Mr King wore in court and for taking him to a celebrity screening of the film *Malcolm X*.

Johnnie Cochran, who is now acting as O.J. Simpson's defence lawyer and who is a friend and rival of Mr Grimes, commented that "Rodney King, instead of being remembered as a man who was unjustly beaten and who got some justice, is now perceived as the man who had those greedy lawyers".

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Somali children die in fire from departing Marines

FROM SAM KILEY IN MOGADISHU

AMERICAN Marines killed several Somalis and wounded dozens more in volleys of cannon and rifle fire as they left Mogadishu early yesterday at the end of the United Nations' failed mission to restore order in the anarchic country.

As the last platoons of Marines splashed aboard combat hovercraft, gunners on armoured amphibious vehicles let loose with hundreds of cannon rounds and heavy machinegun fire, illuminating the pre-dawn sky with scarlet tracer to frighten off militiamen.

But stray rounds slammed into buildings a mile away. Hassan Ahmed Dine said at the Benadir hospital in the centre of the Somali capital that three of his children had been wounded by the Americans and his youngest son was killed in his sleep when cannon shells burst inside the children's bedroom. The hospital recorded 28 overnight admissions, mostly suffering from shrapnel wounds.

Two people sleeping on the verandah of a house opposite the UN's World Food Programme offices were killed. The bed of one of the victims lay in the garden with blood and tissue clinging to the hole made by a cannon round.

A US Defence Department spokesman said he was not certain, but believed that six Somalis had been killed in at least four incidents. The Somali National Alliance put the number of dead at 13, with 30 wounded.

Watching Somalis said Marines had not come under fire. Marine Lieutenant-General Tony Zinni, who commanded the Operation United Shield withdrawal, told Cable News Network from a warship off Somalia that his forces took action only when they were directly threatened.

General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, Chairman of the Somali National Alliance, which seized control of the port and airport moments after the Marines departed, said that the withdrawal was a "special present" for the Somali people as part of their celebrations of Eid ul-Fitr, the end of Ramadan, which came yesterday. He repeated his "commitment" to peace and security in Somalia, and said militias from the south of the capital would soon be reunited with their clan enemies in the north under a joint command. "We are all tired of war," he said.

General Aidid has repeatedly signed peace deals and promised reconciliation with other warlords in Somalia, but in the past such agreements have always led to renewed conflict.

Yesterday, over juice and cakes served in the newly-renovated house where he lived until it was destroyed by American aircraft in 1993, he insisted that he would respect proposals to allow a committee of several clans to manage the port and airport, which were abandoned by the UN this week.

General Aidid said Somalia would not be plunged back into chaos. "There will not be any more civil war. There will be peace. I am pleased that all foreign forces have left."

But as his battle wagons surrounded the port and airport, it seemed unlikely to most Somalis that he would agree to dilute his own power.



US marines wade towards an amphibious vehicle at the end of the UN operation

O.J. witness fails to deny claim of cash for evidence

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

PROSECUTORS in the O.J. Simpson trial claim that his chief alibi witness was offered $5,000 (£3,150) to give false evidence that she saw the one-time footballer's car outside his house on the night Nicole Brown Simpson, his former wife, and her friend Ronald Goldman were murdered.

The allegation came towards the end of six hours of cross-examination of Rosa Lopez that left her credibility in tatters and Mr Simpson's alibi bolstered only by her apparent amnesia. Ms Lopez, a former housekeeper for Mr Simpson's neighbours, is the only witness to have come forward in support of the defendant's claim that he was at home at about 10.15pm on June 12 last year, the time when the prosecution contends the murders took place.

When Christopher Darden, a district attorney, suggested during his cross-examination that Ms Lopez had been offered money for her testimony, she did not deny it. Pressing home his advantage, Mr Darden asked whether she had told a friend and fellow housekeeper that she, too, would be paid $5,000 if she gave evidence that Mr Simpson's white Ford Bronco was outside his home at 10.15. "I don't remember having said it, sir," Ms Lopez replied. She gave her evidence in Spanish through an interpreter.

"I don't remember" was a phrase she repeated more than 50 times as Mr Darden questioned her on many inconsistencies in her evidence, which was videotaped in the jury's absence. Whether or not it is shown to the jurors later has not been decided. If the jury does see the tape, they may well be torn between sympathy for a frightened Salvadorean immigrant thrust into the spotlight and contempt for a witness successfully portrayed by Mr Darden as a defence puppet.

Johnnie Cochran, the leading defence lawyer, objected strongly when accused by the prosecution of signalling answers to Ms Lopez, but remained silent during Mr Darden's questioning about possible payment for false evidence.

Ms Lopez, who first appeared in court last week in a purple velvetine tracksuit, has since been clothed and accommodated at the defence's expense. She admitted being given cheques worth $636 for new dresses and suits.

Mr Simpson has pleaded not guilty to murdering his former wife and Goldman.

Chain-gangs return to Alabama

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

IN A throwback to an earlier era of penal history, prison authorities in Alabama are reintroducing "chain-gangs", teams of convicts shackled together in leg irons who will clear litter from the state's busiest roads.

Chain-gangs were a familiar sight in the American South during the first part of this century, but the practice gradually became a byword for the kind of prison brutality immortalised in song and film, perhaps most notably by Paul Newman in *Cool Hand Luke*.

Public opinion turned sharply against the punishment in 1932 with the release of the film *I Am a Fugitive From a Chain-Gang*, depicting the fate of an innocent man sentenced to work on one of the gangs. This year Ron Jones, Alabama's new prison commissioner, ordered 300 sets of leg-irons, making Alabama the first state to reintroduce the chain-gang as part of a tougher policy towards the custody of prisoners.

Donald Claxton, a spokesman for Fob James, the state governor, said that the sight of chained convicts would help to counter the public impression that "all inmates do is watch soap operas and drink Coca-Cola".

Mr Jones plans to send out gangs of five convicts, with just eight feet of chain between each man. "With leg shackles we can put higher-risk inmates to work," he said.

The reintroduction of the chain-gang in Alabama has prompted intense criticism from prisoner welfare groups and others who say that making such a public spectacle of convicts is reminiscent of medieval punishment methods. They are certain that it will further alienate hardened criminals from society.

"I find it fascinating that the corrections system is turning back the hands of time when the rest of the world is moving forward," Rob Hoelter, director of the National Centre on Institutions and Alternatives, said.

The American Civil Liberties Union described the image of shackled men once again trudging Southern roads as horrible.



Paul Newman in a scene from *Cool Hand Luke*

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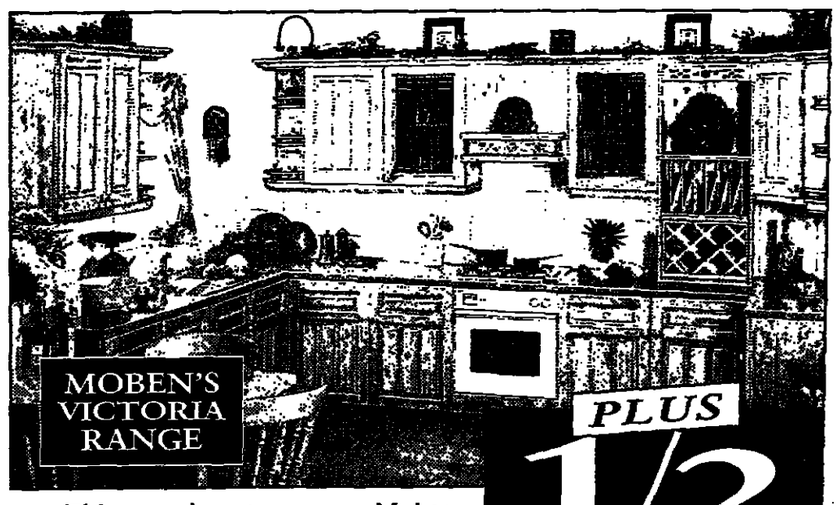
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The millennium provides a perfect opportunity to tackle the blight of world poverty. **Basil Hume** urges us all to seize it

A date for richer and poorer

Next week's World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen is fundamentally a summit about morality. Since it will be followed up by a special session of the UN General Assembly in the year 2000, the summit could also make a significant impact on preparations to mark the millennium.

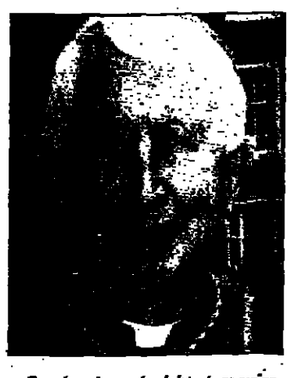
For this to happen the critical importance of the summit's outcome must be far more widely acknowledged and promoted. This is the first time heads of state meet to consider globally the social needs of all peoples. Issues discussed in isolation at previous UN conferences such as Rio and Cairo will be integrated into a systematic programme of action, responding to three of the most acute moral demands facing the world today: the eradication of poverty, employment creation and social integration.

Many states fear the negative social impact of the rapid transformation now taking place in the global economy, which is hastening global economic and social interdependence. The summit testifies to the emerging importance of the UN as political leaders increasingly recognise that effective and lasting solutions require concerted action.

The summit's draft declaration stresses that social development is indispensable for peace within and between nations. It also proclaims that social development is a necessary foundation for sustainable development and economic prosperity. This seems a remarkable revision of priorities when it has often been thought right as well as necessary to put off social development in the "short" term to achieve immediate economic growth. By addressing the issue of global social development head-on, this summit goes to the heart of the most sensitive and profound challenge facing all societies at the turn of the millennium.

The millennium is born of religious symbolism. Christians celebrating the coming of Christ 2,000 years ago build on the Jewish tradition of a jubilee year. Every 50 years a jubilee was to be declared when the slate of debts would be wiped clean, slaves would be freed and all would regain a stake in the promised land. In the Gospel Jesus proclaims that the abundance of the whole earth is promised by God as an inheritance to the poor, the hungry and the weak. However much the jubilee remains an unfulfilled ideal, and the divine promise is obstructed, two profound truths are being highlighted: that justice demands the protection of the weak, and that God has given the fruits of the earth to everyone. Nations, companies and persons are only stewards of God's gifts, charged with using them in a just way. Private property is not an absolute right, but always comes with a "social mortgage": the greater needs of others may affect the use made of it.

Remarkably, this moral theme of justice for all resonates through the summit documents. A moral dimension has been recognised beyond the calculation of national and sectional self-interest. This is revealed most clearly by the number of specific commitments the summit proposes to reduce world poverty by 2000.



One key issue is debt. A requirement of the jubilee year was the remission of debt. In Africa particularly, many of the world's least developed countries are still crippled by unpayable external debts. Their situation is often exacerbated both by social disintegration and corruption and by the conditions sometimes imposed by lending institutions. This summit provides an outstanding opportunity to tackle this disastrous blight on the future of so many of the world's poorest nations.

Although the alleviation of global poverty will rightly loom large, it would be a mistake to see the purpose of this summit as being to help the poor countries of the South to develop as the North has. The consumption of the North is already ecologically unsustainable, and the summit challenges the so-called "developed" world to re-examine what is meant by social development.

In developed countries many people live in the grip of a powerful materialist culture, constantly driven by the belief that without more money, and the status and power it brings, there can be no fulfilment. Linked to this is a widespread lack of recognition of the crucial social importance of unpaid productive work, much of which is done by women at home looking after young families or older relatives. The evils of unemployment and material poverty are made ever harder to bear in a culture which has stripped away any other basis of value and self-respect than material wealth. Pope Paul VI called greed the worst form of moral underdevelopment. The over-consumption of the world's resources by developed countries is not only immoral, it deprives both rich and poor alike of authentic social development. It is unsustainable and indefensible.

Before society can be changed we have to change our minds in two ways. First, we must escape the mentality which isolates economic wealth as the goal to which all other goals are subordinated. Focusing on social development achieves this by putting the good of the human person centre-stage and emphasising that people matter more than what they produce. Second, we must recognise that social development can take place only in inclusive communities which aim at social integration. This is why the summit calls for a reorientation of values so that individuals and states see themselves as part of a larger, global, community to which they owe a responsibility.

Only these changes in moral outlook will generate the political will to allow leaders of the industrialised world to give due priority to raising one billion people worldwide out of abject poverty, and to implementing this summit's many commitments.

Is such a prospect Utopian? In recent years the seemingly impossible has developed an extraordinary knack of happening: the end of the Cold War, of apartheid, of terrorist violence in Northern Ireland. It is not beyond hope that our political leaders will embrace Copenhagen and take practical steps to implement its recommendations.

But we cannot delegate our own moral responsibility as citizens to those in authority. If we expect them to act, we must say so. In our own lives we can all do something, however slight, to live more simply, build community and reduce poverty. What we make of the coming millennium is up to us.

● *Cardinal Hume is Archbishop of Westminster*

When capping doesn't fit

Tony Travers on how Tory local government policy has backfired

There used to be a joke about the Liberal Party being able to hold its conference in a telephone box. The state of the modern Conservative Party means its local government conference, which takes place in London this weekend, might also fit easily into a very small space.

The Tories control not a single major authority in Wales or Scotland. Of the higher-spending authorities in England, they have outright control of one metropolitan district (Trafford), one shire county (Buckinghamshire) and four London boroughs. Both Labour and the Liberal Democrats are riding high. Perhaps the only recent event to lighten the Conservatives' gloom was this week's resignation (some would say abolition) of Sir John Banham, chairman of the Local Government Commission. Banham had been widely blamed for the random nature of the commission's reorganisation proposals.

The slump in the Conservatives' grip on local political power is of more than theoretical importance — more than £70 billion is spent by local government each year. Councils control the funding of many parts of the welfare state, including schools, social services and much public housing.

Whitehall today uses local government as a kind of magic black box, which allows a number of wholly inconsistent decisions to be taken affecting the funding of major public services. Spending limits set for councils are far less generous than those for government departments. Ministers then concede pay settlements for two of the biggest local authority employee groups — teachers and police — that are significantly higher than the councils' permitted year-on-year spending increases. Such inconsistency is then compounded by requirements to provide new services. Talk about squaring the circle.

It is small wonder that loyal Conservatives in areas as diverse as Shropshire, Oxfordshire and Trafford have taken to the barricades over the funding of schools. They see the Government setting itself generous public spending targets and then foisting on them the difficult job of explaining away to angry local taxpayers the leaking school buildings and unrepaired roads.

The accountability of councillors to electors has thus been smashed. Before the introduction of capping and the huge rise in central control over council income, electors could blame councillors for any deficiencies in local spending. If schools had no books or too few teachers, the blame was fairly laid at the doors of town and county halls.

Now, the town hall blames Gillian Shephard or Kenneth Clarke. A shortage of money in a primary school in Cumbria or Cornwall has become the fault of a Cabinet minister several hundred miles away. Councils have been made irresponsible by the very government that was committed to restoring local accountability.

> 'Small wonder local Tories are taking to the barricades'

The impact of capping goes beyond the constitutional niceties of whether or not a particular set of elected people can be held to account for the raising and use of taxation; it is losing the Conservatives seats in local elections.

Now that capping is universal, low-spending rural shires find themselves treated in just the same way as their higher-spending city counterparts. Indeed, several inner London boroughs such as Lambeth have been more generously treated by capping in 1995-96 than most rural counties. This surreal equality has not gone down well with many shire Tories.

Capping has another, more direct, impact on voting patterns. Tories could usually rely on neighbouring Labour authorities to have higher local tax bills. The electorate would often switch votes to get lower tax bills. Now, capping restrains council tax bills in all authorities, ensuring that there is convergence. Wandsworth has announced it will double its local tax this year. Another flagship heads for the bottom.

Environment ministers have looked at the possibility of abandoning capping, but without success. But if councils were once again free to set their own budgets, differentials might develop between Conservative and other councils, giving the party some hope of clawing back local political control.

This weekend's gathering will be a sombre affair. Another round of disastrous local poll results will hit the news in May. Perhaps a smaller venue should be booked for next year's conference.

Who owns Priam's gold?

A second Trojan War is brewing over treasure found long ago



Heinrich Schliemann with his Greek wife, Sophia, wearing a gold head-dress from the spectacular hoard unearthed in Troy

What a row is in the offing. Next January the Russians are to put on show what is known as Priam's Treasure. The hoard is of some 100 objects, including golden diadems, necklaces, earrings, swords and jewelled axes. They were unearthed in the ruins of Troy by Heinrich Schliemann in 1873 and taken from Berlin by Soviet soldiers in May 1945. For 45 years they vanished and were thought lost. To Moscow's Pushkin Museum the exhibition will be worth far more than its considerable weight in gold. But is the museum entitled to it?

The hoard is chiefly famous for what it is not. When his trowel hit the first golden dish, the bombastic and extrovert Schliemann was ecstatic. He cleared the site and excavated the cache alone, hiding the finds from Turkish officials and spiriting them secretly out of the country. He was convinced that he now possessed the treasury of King Priam. He adorned his young Greek wife, Sophia, with what he declared to be the personal jewels of Helen of Troy, and photographed her as the face that launched a thousand ships. The Turks were furious. The hoard is today recognised as much older than the Homeric era, but "Priam's Treasure" it has remained.

This week the Pushkin Museum hurriedly staged an exhibition of long-hidden pictures taken from Germany at the end of the war and dumped in its vaults. They include works by Cranach, Goya, El Greco and Tintoretto. The show was put on to pre-empt the much grander exhibition of looted German pictures at the Hermitage in St Petersburg on March 30. This will include outstanding works by Cézanne, Van Gogh, Degas and Renoir. Many of the pictures were pillaged from private as well as state galleries. Astonishing ghosts are rising from the dungeons of communism. War's business is apparently never finished.

The absence of information from either the Pushkin or the Hermitage had for 50 years left the world of looted German art as murky as that of the KGB. Occasionally works believed lost would seep out onto the art market. There were dark tales of forgeries, sales to Latin American drug barons, even of possible swaps. Experts assumed that somebody must have known the whereabouts of the lost private collections of the Krebs, Gerstenberg/Scharf and Koenigs families, not to mention the Priam Treasure. The Gerstenberg collection includes the great Degas of the *Place de la Concorde*. Not until 1993 did the Russians even admit that Priam's Treasure existed, in a locked room in the Pushkin known to just three senior staff.

The Germans believe that half a million works of art disappeared into Russia in 1945, in a vast orgy of retaliatory plunder. The Russians claim the Nazis deserved it, given the Russian art works they destroyed or stole earlier in the war, including the Novgorod frescoes. The Allies went some way to restoring most of the art looted by the Nazis, but there was little flow in the opposite direction back into Germany. When it comes to the trophies of war, memories are long and possession is glorious.

Russian secrecy about the trophy caches is what weakens its case. The furtiveness suggests a guilty conscience. The Germans have offered negotiations on reparation, swaps and even purchase, to get back works now known to be in Russian hands. What they find hard to accept is the Russian claim to title. Many of the pictures had themselves been looted by the Nazis: two works at the Pushkin exhibition have Hungarian Jewish names on their plates. Tough though it may be, and profitable for lawyers, somebody one day must decide to whom these works belong. Who really owns Priam's gold?

From what I can see, Priam's Treasure belongs to the Turks, from whom Schliemann boasted he stole it. The Turkish Government has already asked for it back. According to Caroline Moorehead in her admirable *The Lost Treasures of Troy*, Schliemann took the treasure to Athens, where he put it on display and even promised to leave it to the Greek nation. He pondered giving it to America, London and St Petersburg before finally deciding on the Ethnographic Museum in Berlin, where it was duly displayed. Threatened by the greatest art destroyer of the war, Bomber Harris, the treasure was moved into the impregnable bunker at Berlin Zoo. It was there that the Russians "liberated" it in the summer of 1945.

So we have a mess. The Russians claim the treasure as war trophy. The Germans claim it as stolen property. The Turks claim it as loot smuggled from Troy. The Greeks might reasonably claim that the treasure was promised to them by Schliemann. (An American lawyer might even ask for it in compensation to the Greeks for having had to launch a thousand ships.) On top of this are dozens of Germans and others expecting the return of what nobody questions was once their property. If previously communist states can return houses and land to their former owners, why not goods and chattels?

The easy answer is to say, a plague on all of them. What you have you hold. Possession is nine tenths of the law. But not all peoples react in this helpful way, over works of art or over lost territory. Germany and Turkey both view Priam's Treasure as Greece does the Elgin Marbles or Britain did the Falklands. Objects can embody a nation's self-respect as much as land.

Simon Jenkins

The museum curator's union at this point introduces its oldest ally, the thin end of the wedge. If you start talking about restitution where will you stop? If Priam's Treasure and the Degas *Concorde*, why not the *Winged Victory*, the walls of Babylon and the Philae obelisk? But these questions will not vanish. Such talk started long ago. Stalin returned Dresden's art collection looted by his soldiers in 1957. He also sent the Pergamon altar back to Berlin. All over the world, museums are negotiating deals on the return of "crown jewels" looted for imperial collections and now the subject of diplomatic pressure.

To be fair to both the Russians and the Germans in this matter, they have been negotiating on the future of war booty. The hope is that a series of exchanges could enable the Germans to recover some of what they lost and restore pictures to private owners. In return the Russians could be helped to fill gaps in their collections with works they could not possibly afford in the market. This makes eminent sense. But it requires German and other museums to be flexible about their existing collections, bluntly to lose in order to gain. As the German Ambassador said at the opening of the Pushkin show, there is here a chance to "break the vicious circle of war and blame".

Both sides are aware of the fierce nationalism now simmering in the Russian parliament, where a Bill is already being debated to "nationalise" all war trophies emerging from the grimmer vaults of communism. This subject is alive. It is high diplomacy. These caches could be currency, to help the Russians to rebuild what were once the most glorious museums and galleries in Europe. Or they could rankle for ages. The business of war is never over, but sometimes it can be turned to advantage.

Lack of trust

THE NATIONAL Trust stands to lose vast tracts of the finest countryside in the Lake District as a result of the continuing pressure on fox-hunting. Lord Lonsdale, 72, who leases nearly 17,000 acres to the trust, is worried about extending the lease which comes up next year because he fears that the trust might ban fox-hunting.

The land concerned is in the heart of the Lake District. It includes the Langdale Pikes as well as parts of Helvellyn, Grasmere, Rydal Water and Elterwater.

"If the trust were to ban hunting, it would be of serious consequence to the farmers up here," he said. "So I am uneasy about granting them a new, longer lease. Members of the trust have tried time and time again to ban hunting."

The Lake District, home of the legendary John Peel, has five packs of hounds which are followed on foot. Lord Lonsdale has made his views clear to Sir Angus Stirling, director-general of the trust, and to its chairman, Lord Chorley. "Foxes take the lambs. The function of the Lake District packs is to kill the foxes on the high fells. There are no other known means of keeping the numbers down."

Under the current lease, the National Trust rents the land at a peppercorn rent. Yesterday, a spokesman acknowledged that some of its finest countryside was at stake. "We would be very distressed if we were denied access to so much glorious countryside in the Lake District."



Lonsdale: lease threat



Greens party

JOHN MAJOR'S struggle to keep control of his party is to move to the fairways and greens of the nation's golf courses. His pairing whip, Andrew MacKay, responsible for ensuring that MPs vote the right way, has been elected captain of the parliamentary golf society.

He takes over from Tim Yeo who steps down after four years in a job of crucial importance to many MPs. Competition is fierce among more than 40 MPs for places in the team of 12 that travels to the finest courses in the land. Any sign of insurrection in the lobbies could jeopardise their chances on the fairways. "Certainly it is a powerful job," he admits with satisfaction.

Hot spot

THE EARL of Pembroke made a flying visit to Dublin the other day. In passing, he explained how his family had acquired the vast tracts of land it once owned in the city — land which once belonged to another noble family, the Fitzwilliams. It was down to the unacceptable behaviour of a member of the Fitzwilliam family.

In 1816, explained Pembroke, Lord Fitzwilliam invited his nephew and heir to tea. The boy poured the tea into his saucer and blew over it because it was hot, and started slurping. The vulgarity so appalled Fitzwilliam that he disinherited his nephew on the spot and the estate went to Sidney Herbert, son of his friend, the Earl of Pembroke.

Max factor

NICK Leeson, the Barings rogue trader, is said to have phoned the publicist Max Clifford no fewer than four times for advice while in hiding. This was not, however, the first time that Clifford got involved with the Baring family.

Back in 1987, Clifford had dealings with an aspiring young actress named Katie Baring. "She came into my life at a time when I was busily working with Derek Hatton," says Clifford. "As far as I remember, I was just attracting a little bit of publicity for her, getting her to go to the odd premiere." The result was a series of tabloid articles about the blooming relationship between the banking heiress and the left-wing firebrand from Liverpool.

● *Hugh Grant, who picked up the London Film Critics' award for outstanding comedy performance of the year on Thursday night, has been given an even higher accolade. He is to present* Top of the Pops *on BBC1 on March 16 amid the usual screaming teenyboppers. Female pop pickers are likely to pay more attention to the presenter than the bands.*



Less glossy

SPORTING hair like candy floss and a figure-hugging dress which looked like a horse blanket covered in flowers, the designer Vivienne Westwood said she wanted to move into publishing the other night. She is bored by the glossies and wants to do her own thing.

She was talking at a party thrown at Daphne's restaurant in Chelsea by the magazine *Harpers & Queen* to celebrate the arrival of their new fashion director, Tierney Gifford Horne. "I might look at a fashion magazine if somebody shows me something of mine that is featured, but I don't find them very exciting," she said. "If I'm on a flight the last thing I want to do is read one."

Her vision is rather different. "I want to set up my own intellectual salon where a whole range of people could come and the magazine would be tied in with that, not just fashion. It might just be a four-page freesheet to start with."



Westwood: higher plane

P·H·S

VALLEY OF DEBT

Who will take the blame for the Barings scandal?

While accountants and other scavengers pick over the ruins of the House of Barings, and while German lawyers ponder the fate of the world's now most famous banker, the pace of developments in this extraordinary saga is slowing. Such a pause in the plot would never have been allowed by Jeffrey Archer; but in this true-life drama, an interlude of quiet reflection is producing some noteworthy results.

The most striking has been the switch in public sympathy between the chief players. At the beginning of this week, Nick Leeson was the vulgar and arrogant barrow-boy whose brief riot of greed had destroyed a 200-year-old institution, wrecked the lives of 4,000 middle-class colleagues, betrayed his aristocratic superiors and brought shame upon the City of London and the whole of Britain. He was the financial equivalent of the football hooligans of Lansdowne Road.

Now the tables are turning. The brash Mr Leeson is starting to look like a victim and a scapegoat for the errors of others. The villains now seem to be the elegant, complacent managers of Barings, with their royal connections, their rounded vowels and their hints of moral inferiority in the lower social ranks. Perhaps this was not a case of Essex Man's wanton vandalism but a financial re-enactment of the Charge of the Light Brigade, a foppish charge into the valley of debt. Since this is a true story and not an Archer novel, we will have to wait to find out what really happened, what caused the collapse and whose fault it was. But even without the option of skipping to the final chapter, a few conclusions can be drawn.

The first is that a corporate fiasco like this should never be blamed solely on the unpredictable actions of one employee. A core function of management is to maintain controls that protect a company from the dishonesty or incompetence of any one "rogue" employee — be he the head of the company, like Robert Maxwell, or a middle-ranking manager, like Mr Leeson. If Barings did not have such controls, then the senior management must bear responsibility. For a securities business to allow itself to be destroyed by a "rogue" trader is like a zoo not bothering to lock its cages and blaming a "rogue" tiger for the carnage.

The second lesson, which follows from the first, is that the British economic establishment is dangerously complacent about the City's commercial prospects. One instance was Eddie George's smug insistence that a disaster like this could have struck "any bank, anywhere, at any time". A more important case of complacency was the Bank of England's failure to find a way of guaranteeing Barings's deposits, while penalising its shareholders and management. A rescue of Barings's shareholders and senior management was not required: they almost certainly deserved the losses they are going to suffer. Depositors and commercial creditors, however, should not have been put at risk by an incident of this kind. A guarantee need not be a "bail-out".

The Bank's refusal to act as a lender of last resort in this case has permanently damaged the creditworthiness of all other British merchant banks. The prospect of Holland's ING Bank buying the whole of Barings and protecting depositors from losses does not excuse the Bank of England's inaction. On the contrary, the ease with which Barings's administrators were able to liquidate Mr Leeson's outstanding positions, only demonstrated the inaccuracy of the Bank's claim that Barings could not be underwritten because its liabilities were a "black hole".

Whoever gets the final blame, the main lesson is all too clear. Although London may remain Europe's financial capital, Britain's financial industry could easily come to be dominated by foreign-owned companies that are better managed, better financed, and staffed by better employees than their British rivals. The smugness and mismanagement that ruined the British-owned car industry in the 1970s and undermined Lloyd's in the 1980s could also undo Britain's banks.

YELTSIN AND A MAFIA MURDER

Broadcasters in the front line for freedom

The assassination of Vladislav Listyev, a senior Russian television journalist, has shocked Russia. Even in a country inured to gangland killings and the regular murder of bankers, politicians and businessmen, the brazen intimidation of free speech by the country's powerful mafia has provoked widespread fear and anger. As President Yeltsin acknowledged, the murder is a lesson for everyone. It shows that organised crime now has such a hold that the authorities appear powerless to challenge it. Like a cancer, it is eating away at the vital organs of reform, free politics, free enterprise and now free speech.

No one doubts that the death of Mr Listyev was a contract killing, carried out on the orders of the mafia. The young journalist was more than just a campaigning anchorman of a popular news programme. He was the embodiment of the new press freedom, which since the beginning of glasnost has been the guarantor of reform. To many Russians, he was the man who refused to be intimidated. As long as he appeared regularly in people's homes, democratic freedoms, under pressure on so many other fronts, appeared to be holding. Under President Yeltsin there have been many attempts to force the press back into the subservient role of propagandist lackey it played during the Soviet era. So far they have largely failed, thanks to the courage of individual journalists and broadcasters.

It was not for his democratic thinking or beliefs that Mr Listyev was killed, however. What the mafia clearly feared was the new ban on television advertising, which he would have enforced in the launch of Public Russian Television. Advertising is a milch cow for the mafia. The multi-billion-rouble industry has been infiltrated by shady figures, who in turn push the products on which mafia "businessmen" grow rich through payoffs, private monopolies and protection rackets.

Mr Yeltsin, by a swift personal appearance in the television headquarters, acknowledged the symbolic importance of this most blatant silencing of a public figure since he came to power. He immediately accepted some of the blame, saying he had not done enough to stamp out gangsterism, bribe-taking and crime. His actions in response were typically intemperate: he sacked the head of the Moscow Interior Ministry police and the capital's Prosecutor-General. The unfortunate pair can hardly be held personally responsible for the hydra-headed mafia; but their removal was a symbolic and visible move to reassure nervous Muscovites.

More than this is needed. Crime is the most significant barrier to foreign investment, democratic reform and the building of a civil society. It is, overwhelmingly, the chief concern of those living in the big towns. Mr Yeltsin said he had feared to crack down until now lest he be accused of trying to resuscitate a police state. Almost no Russian would oppose the proper enforcement even of existing laws. Crime has been tolerated too long because too many people in Mr Yeltsin's own administration have profited, directly or indirectly, from illegality. New measures need not threaten democracy: the press, above all, has been its best guardian until now. This is presumably also the reasoning of the mafia. And this is why Mr Listyev paid with his life.

SLICE OF LIFE

The great Californian deep panic pizza

A man has been sentenced to life imprisonment in California for stealing a slice of pepperoni pizza. The bizarre fate of pizza-thief Jerry Dewayne Williams was sealed by a bill passed last year in California's state legislature. The public strongly supported a proposal that offenders who have committed two serious or violent crimes would automatically be sentenced to life imprisonment on a third conviction.

Williams's third offence was absurdly trivial. After asking for pizza from a group of children and being turned down, he seized a slice without permission. An observer called the police who proceeded to prosecute Williams although the theft did not involve assault or any legally "aggravating" circumstances. In itself, it was a misdemeanour. But by virtue of Williams's previous convictions for robbery, attempted robbery, drug possession and unauthorised use of a vehicle, the unlawful taking of a slice of pizza was upgraded to a felony. On a legal principle borrowed from baseball — three strikes and you're out — the judge had to sentence Williams to prison for life.

As California still makes a distinction between felonies and misdemeanours (where British law does not), the self-contradictory category of "felonious petty theft" was coined to describe the crime. This elevation of an offence to a far more serious status on the ground of a defendant's history seems to breach the rules of both criminal justice and logic. In Britain, previous convictions may be taken into account by a judge when passing sentence, but the sentence cannot exceed the statutory maximum for the particular offence under trial. American judges too have traditionally had discretion in considering past convictions. The new California law which prohibits any such discretionary power may now have to be tested in the Supreme Court.

This measure was passed in a wave of public frustration over rising crime and lenient sentencing. By insisting on its indiscriminate application, the public was deliberately limiting what it saw as a too permissive judiciary. The assumption was that if repeat offenders were faced inescapably with very harsh punishment, they would be deterred from further crimes. What went unnoticed was that they would also be deterred from leaving alive any witnesses to their later crimes.

Over a thousand cases have already been brought under the new law in Los Angeles County alone. Many of those will have dealt with the kind of habitual violent offenders at whom the policy was aimed. But the mechanistic application of such a principle was bound to result in risible injustice. Public opinion cannot be ignored by the courts but sentencing should be a matter for individual judgment, not blanket procedures.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Weighing responsibilities over the Barings collapse

From Professor Tim Congdon

Sir, William Rees-Mogg's column of February 28, "Who will bank in the City now?", raises important issues [also letters, March 1, 2]. As noted in your leader of the same day, the vital distinction in "saving a bank" is surely between shareholders and depositors.

No one has suggested that the Bank of England's lender-of-last-resort responsibility involves a commitment to protect the shareholders from their own mistakes. But the matter is quite different with depositors. Many historical precedents justify Lord Rees-Mogg's claim that the Bank of England should try to ensure that Barings' deposits are repaid in full. As he says, uncertainty about the value of these deposits — indeed, the risk that they may be worthless — will affect "the credit of the City" more generally.

However, there is a problem. In the very recent case of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International the Bank of England refused to help depositors, and it now seems certain that they will eventually receive only part of their money back. How are the BCCI and Barings cases different? Surely, the heart of the answer is that most people would regard Barings as a British bank, and therefore a responsibility of the Bank of England, whereas BCCI was a bank of indeterminate nationality.

But that will not quite do. Even though BCCI was headquartered in Luxembourg and largely owned in the Gulf, many of its depositors were British. (The ethnic origins of these depositors is of course of no relevance to the case.) So there would appear to be a gross inequity in the Bank of England helping Barings' depositors, but not BCCI's, and that may explain Mr George's decision not "to save Barings".

The fundamental question raised by Lord Rees-Mogg becomes the nature of the lender-of-last-resort responsibility in an era of global banking. In the old days the customers of British banks could look to the Bank of England for help in an emergency, because they knew how to recognise a British bank. But nowadays a number of significant banks are no longer of a specific nationality.

Yours etc,
TIM CONGDON
(Managing Director),
Lombard Street Research Ltd,
33 Lombard Street, EC3.
March 1.

From Mr M. H. Hodgson

Sir, A merchant bank gets into financial trouble. The Bank of England convenes a meeting of top bankers but they fail to find a solution to the problem and the merchant bank falls into administration. The Governor of the Bank of England is then castigated by William Rees-Mogg ("How a great bank was brought low", February 27) for not underwriting the losses of Barings despite their huge and open-ended nature.

Over the last twenty years or so, hundreds of companies in the West Midlands and other traditional industrial areas have gone into receivership, often at the instigation of their bankers. Some sympathy has been expressed for individuals who have lost their jobs, but the general City view has been that this was an appropriate market response to management failure.

Why the difference?

Yours faithfully,
M. H. HODGSON,
44 Rose Hill, Rednal, Birmingham.
March 2.

From Mr Anthony J. Budden

Sir, The use of derivatives by bankers to hedge against a specific risk is defensible as part of a programme of risk management.

Using call options to speculate in an unrelated market, as appears to have been the case with Barings, is, however, gambling and should be disallowed. The distinction is easily made.

Hedging is a device to reduce losses and will not normally produce large gains. The fact that Barings made huge profits last year and rewarded Mr Leeson with a reported bonus of £2.5 million indicates that speculating may have been part of corporate policy and the eventual occurrence of huge losses was inevitable.

Yours truly,
A. J. BUDDEN,
4 Belvedere Villas, Bath, Avon.
March 2.

From Mr Philip Sagar

Sir, In the past decade many international banks suffered grievous losses as a result of loans made to Third World countries. The banks' shareholders saw the value of their investments drop and many, often innocent, employees lost their jobs as banks sought to offset their losses by reducing their costs.

But the money lent was real money and despite bad management by the borrowing governments at least some of it should have ended up as dams, roads, hospitals, etc, aimed at benefiting the ordinary people. There was some purpose here.

What about the derivatives trading which has led to the Barings tragedy? The billions of dollars traded were not real but the billion dollar loss was. What was the purpose of the trading? Profit. Benefit to "society" never came into it. The result? Two hundred years of dedicated and responsible banking destroyed. To what purpose?

What a pity that we can't close down these derivative markets.

Yours etc,
PHILIP SAGAR,
29 Chemin des Hutins,
1247 Anières, Geneva.
March 1.

Battle honours on field of Agincourt

From Baroness White of Rhymney

Sir, It is St David's Day and I cannot forbear from comment on your vision of the "Birth of a nation" (leading article, February 25) and the report you published on the same day.

Your suggestion that we should commemorate the Hundred Years War, in particular the victory of Henry V at Agincourt, as "a vital chapter in the formation of our national identity" strikes somewhat unconvincingly on Welsh ears. Your leader is all too clearly intended for the English element only.

The victory at Agincourt was primarily due to the 5,000 longbowmen, mainly from Gwent, recognised then and now as the most effective troops for open warfare in their day. As Professor G. M. Trevelyan once commented, "it was always easier to recruit infantry among the poor of Wales than among the settled and peaceable English". Giraldus Cambrensis knew this too.

To refer solely to "the champions of embryonic Englishness" is going too far. Shakespeare had more sense when, in *Henry V*, Act 4, scene 7, he makes Pfluellen say: "I do believe your majesty takes no scorn to wear the leek upon Saint Tavy's Day", whereupon King Harry responds: "I wear it for a memorable honour; For I am Welsh, you know, good countryman."

Harry was born in Monmouth, where he is still honoured, with Agincourt Square a main attraction. Monmouth was shifted to England by Henry VIII, but ultimately restored. As a resident in the County of Gwent, I am indeed glad to welcome the English but to remain firmly Welsh.

Yours faithfully,
EIRENE WHITE,
House of Lords.
March 1.

From Mr Nicholas M. White

Sir, You make great play of the English victories at Crécy, Poitiers and Agincourt, leading us to believe that the English emerged victorious from the Hundred Years War.

Nothing could be further from the truth. By the end of that war, in 1453, we had lost all of our territories in southwest France, including the wine-growing region of Gascony, which had been in English hands since the 12th century. The only remaining English possession across the Channel was Calais, and we only held that for another 105 years.

We have been European partners of the French for 22 years now; surely it is time we started treating them as equals and buried our historical differences.

Yours faithfully,
N. M. WHITE,
Judge's Cottage, 29 Main Road,
Sundridge, Sevenoaks, Kent.
February 25.

From Mr Cellan Williams

Sir, Crécy, Poitiers, Agincourt. We won the battles but we lost the war. That is why we do not remember it.

Yours faithfully,
CELLAN WILLIAMS,
5 The Glebe, Wheatley, Oxford.
February 25.

Silencing Sir John

From Mr R. E. B. Atkinson

Sir, Sir John Banham (report, March 3) was appointed by the Government to chair an inquiry into the structure of local government. He was supposed to come to the conclusions which the Government had first thought of.

Having taken meticulous and detailed evidence from the people and having arrived instead at a democratic conclusion, he is dismissed by the State.

Poor Sir John: like the Danes in their referendum, he got the wrong answer. Politics is about the power of the State not the will of the people.

Yours etc,
RODNEY E. B. ATKINSON,
60 Ashbourne Court,
Woodside Park Road, Finchley, N12.
March 3.

From Mr J. C. Bolton

Sir, Sir John Banham's resignation as chairman of the Local Government Commission highlights yet again the Government's isolation and arrogance.

Because Sir John actually dares to sound out public opinion at local level rather than perform as a puppet, he is forced to resign.

No wonder that the present Government is more unpopular than any since 1945 and has lost the support of its traditional voters.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BOLTON,
Baytree Cottage,
East Clandon, Guildford, Surrey.
March 3.

Blocking the view

From Mr Peter Gorb

Sir, The daffodils and crocuses in Hyde Park, adjacent to the Park Lane carriageway, are at their best this week. What a pleasant prospect they would provide for Londoners and tourists if it wasn't for the coaches in between.

Why do we allow these multi-coloured monsters to park nose to tail on one of London's few grand routes and disfigure and obscure one of the best views of our most important city park?

Yours faithfully,
PETER GORB,
17 Redington Road, NW3.
March 3.

Art of flying in the best company

From Ms Debra Enderby

Sir, I would like to thank Harvey Elliott ("The ABC of landing a better seat", March 2) for addressing the issue of seat upgrades on aircraft and especially for highlighting the discrimination we all know happens but could never prove. I am, of course, referring to the group of travellers who almost never achieve upgrade unless they are with their spouses: women.

As Mr Elliott points out, it helps to wear a business suit, shirt and tie, or blazer and flannels. Hardly feminine apparel, but perhaps I will try it next time I fly.

Yours etc,
D. ENDERBY,
19 Sweet Briar Walk, Edmonton, N18.

From Sir Curtis Keeble

Sir, Poor Harvey Elliott. What a struggle he goes through in order to escape the "horrors of economy class". We, the select group of travellers who buy our airline tickets out of our own taxed income, feel for him as he manoeuvres to escape from proximity to us and our children and "move forwards through the curtain" into the world of those whose tickets are paid for by a government or a business or an airline.

Long may he cherish the illusion that his new neighbour "probably paid twice as much for his or her ticket". The chances are that he paid nothing at all, or indeed that as a reward for the fare which the taxpayer or the shareholder paid on his behalf he will, as a "frequent flyer", be entitled on some future journey to the privilege of travelling with the fare-paying class.

Welcome to you, Harvey, when you next join us in the airline outback. Perhaps you will qualify for the accolade, not of SFU — "suitable for upgrade" — but of the PT — "personal traveller". You may feel a bit out of it in your ripped jeans, but we'll treat you charitably.

Just one word of warning, though. Buy your *Times* before you board. There may not be a free one left.

Yours faithfully,
CURTIS KEEBLE,
Dormers, St Leonards Road,
Thames Ditton, Surrey.
March 2.

Seen and noted

From Dr Dennis Nixon

Sir, Some years ago I accepted on my GP list a "difficult" patient. Some eight weeks later her previous records reached me (letter, February 25).

The last entry was: "Has moved to Collingham — *Hurrah!*"

Yours faithfully,
D. NIXON,
The Chestnuts, Collingham,
Newark, Nottingham.
March 1.

From Mrs Linda Drake

Sir, After the delivery of my second son, in 1984, I was annoyed to read in my medical records the entry: "Mother appears disappointed with sex of baby."

"Astonished" would have been more accurate as, following several scans during pregnancy, I had been assured the baby would be a girl.

Yours sincerely,
LINDA DRAKE,
14 College Gardens,
Dulwich, SE21.
March 1.

Caesar buried?

From Ms Caroline Raphael

Sir, Good heavens! What are the readers of *The Times* to believe? On February 7 you carried a news report telling us that BBC Radio Drama was paying Hollywood stars peanuts for their performances in our production of *Julius Caesar*.

Today we are accused by Peter Barnard of throwing millions of pounds at them ("Caesar buried by Tinseltown", Arts).

For the record, the American cast were paid the usual Equity rates and the whole production, on a cost-per-hour basis, cost less than the production it was compared to, *The Newgate Calendar*.

We're sorry Mr Barnard did not enjoy our production, but undeterred we shall continue to perform Shakespeare regularly, exploring every conceivable way of presenting his work on radio.

Yours sincerely,
CAROLINE RAPHAEL
(Head of Drama, BBC Radio),
Broadcasting House, W1.
March 1.

Climbing life's ladder

From Mr R. P. Stewart

Sir, Mr Vaughan-Jackson (letter, February 28) reflects that he and his wife have passed from "Dinkys" (Dual incomes, no kids yet) to "Orchids" (One recent child, heavily in debt) and are now at the stage of being "Triffids" (Three recent infants, falling further into debt).

Their problems are only just beginning. As one who has trod the way before, I now find that I am at the stage of being "Tepid" (Tastes expensive, pension inadequate. Dammit!).

Yours faithfully,
R. P. STEWART,
5 Bath Square,
Spice Island,
Old Portsmouth, Hampshire.
March 1.

From Mr John Barnes

Sir, The Vaughan-Jacksons have a long way to go. Undoubtedly, they will become "Kitbags" (Kids in teens, bankrupt and grey) — but, on the brighter side, they will eventually achieve the status of "Flopsies" (Family left, on pension, suddenly in Eldorado).

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BARNES,
2 Arundel Avenue,
Mickleover, Derby.

From Dr A. F. Ollerenshaw

Sir, In about forty years' time your correspondent and his wife will be "Plants" (Pensioners looking after numerous toddlers).

Yours faithfully,
A. F. OLLERENSHAW,
52 Lightfoot Lane,
Preston, Lancashire.

From Mr Andrew Plant

Sir, The Vaughan-Jacksons should take care to avoid becoming "Tulips" (Two used leftover insolvent parents).

Yours optimistically,
ANDREW M. PLANT,
4 Minster Precincts,
Peterborough, Cambridgeshire.
February 28.

Parson's freehold

From the Reverend Michael Windridge

Sir, Abolition of the ecclesiastical freehold (report, February 22) could greatly alter the balance of power within the Church, accelerating the removal of that power from clergy, parochial church councils (PCCs) and parishioners into the hands of the diocesan bishop and his officials.

Sir Timothy Hoare, in his consultative paper, says that if the freehold were to be abolished

it would be important to ensure that nothing was done which undermined the concept of the priest living among the people he or she serves ... procedures would need to be established to ensure that clergy were not given notice to leave a post arbitrarily and without proper consideration.

Considerations of the clergy freehold are too important to be left to the clergy alone. Sir Timothy acknowledges that clergy conditions of service are of importance to PCCs as well. Although PCCs have been given no formal encouragement by the Church to do so, I hope they will make their own representations to diocesan synods before the deadline set for diocesan responses of June 2, 1995.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WINDRIDGE,
Ferndene,
Broaden Lane, Hempnall, Norfolk.
February 24.

From the Rector of Chatham

Sir, A shepherd must defend his sheep. This he, or she, cannot do effectively without the necessary independence of action. One of the disturbing consequences of contracted priests-in-charge has been the threat of non-renewal of contract unless the particular priest "toes the line". Anecdotal evidence for this exists even in cases where the priest was faithfully representing the collective will of his churchwardens, PCC, congregation, parishioners and patron.

Regular clergy appraisal is healthy and must come, provided it is done well, whilst more effective measures to facilitate the "release" and care of ineffective clergy certainly ought to be introduced, provided hierarchy and flock concur. Freehold is not a perfect system, but whatever replaces it must be demonstrated satisfactorily to be in every respect better.

Yours faithfully,
R. CAMPBELL PAGET,
The Rectory,
65 Maidstone Road, Chatham, Kent.
February 27.

Weekend Money letters, page 31

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Cheltenham Station this morning and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Gloucestershire (Mr Henry Elwes) and the Mayor of Cheltenham (Mrs Deborah Griggs).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to Government Communications Headquarters and were received by the Director (Sir John Adye).

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were briefed on the activities of the Headquarters and afterwards Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness, honoured the Director with her presence at Luncheon.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited the Birds Eye Wall's factory, Gloucester, and were received by the Chairman (Mr John Sharpe) and Mr John Hazelwood (General Manager).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured the production area, meeting members of staff, and viewed various displays.

Afterwards The Queen planted a commemorative tree.

The Countess of Airlie, Mr Robin Janvrin and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 3: The Princess Royal, President, today attended a Luncheon given by the Lord Maclarlane of Bearsden for The Princess Royal Trust for Carers at United Distillers, Distillers House, Edinburgh, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the City of Edinburgh (Mr Norman Irons, the Rt Hon the Lord Provost).

Her Royal Highness, Master, the Worshipful Company of Woolmen, this evening attended a Livery and Ladies Dinner at the Company of Merchants of Edinburgh, Merchants Hall, Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

Mrs Charles Ritchie was in attendance.

Anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: Henry the Navigator, Portuguese patron of voyages of discovery, Porto, 1394; Antonio Vivaldi, composer, Venice, 1673; Sir Henry Raeburn, portrait painter, Edinburgh, 1756; Giovanni Schiaparelli, astronomer, *Savigliano, Italy, 1835; Jim Clark*, world champion racing driver, Berwickshire, 1936.

DEATHS: Saladin, Sultan of Egypt 1175-73, Damascus, 1193; Bernard Gilpin "Apostle of the North", Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, 1583; William Willett, originator of daylight saving, Chislehurst, Kent, 1915; Sir Charles Sherrington, physiologist, Nobel laureate 1932, Eastbourne, 1952, William Carlos Williams, physician and poet, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1963.

King Henry VI was deposed by Edward Duke of York (King Edward IV), 1461, and restored October, 1470.

The first meeting of Congress was held in New York, 1789.

The RNLI was founded, 1824.

The Forth Bridge was opened, 1890.

The first North Sea gas was piped ashore off the Durham coast, 1967.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: David Bruce, David II, King of Scotland reigned 1329-71, Dunfermline, 1324; Gerhardus Mercator, cartographer, Rupelmonde, Belgium, 1512; William Oughtred, mathematician and pioneer of the slide rule, Eton, 1574; Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, explorer and founder of the city of Detroit, *Les Laumets, France, 1658*; Sir Austen Layard, archaeologist and excavator of Nineveh, Paris, 1817; Sir Charles Thomson, naturalist, Bonsyde, Lothian, 1830; Howard Pyle, illustrator and author of children's books, Wilmington, Delaware, 1853; William Henry Beveridge, 1st Baron Beveridge, economist, Rangpur, India, 1879.

DEATHS: Antonio Correggio, painter, Correggio, Italy, 1534; Thomas Arne, composer, London, 1778; Flora Macdonald, Jacobite, Skye, 1790; Franz Mesmer, physician and pioneer of hypnotism, Miersburg, Austria, 1815; Pierre Simon, Marquis de Laplace, astronomer, 1827; Count Alessandro Volta, physicist, Como, 1827; Sir Henry Rawlinson, orientalist, London, 1895; Edgar Lee Masters, poet and novelist, Philadelphia, 1950; Sergei Prokofiev, composer, Moscow, 1953; Joseph Stalin, Soviet leader, Moscow, 1953; Anna Akhmatova, poet, Moscow, 1966; Tito Gobbi, baritone, Rome, 1984.

Royal engagements

Today

The Princess Royal will open the Wheelchair Terraces at the Scottish Rugby Union ground, Murrayfield, for which financial assistance has been provided by the Wooden Spoon Society, at 12.30; and, as Patron of the Scottish Rugby Union, will attend the Scotland v Wales international match at 2.30.

Weekend birthdays

Today

Professor Sir Alan Battersby, Professor of Organic Chemistry, 70; Sir Arthur Bryan, former Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, 72; Mr Nicholas Coleridge, journalist, 38; Mr Kenny Dalglish, football manager, 44; Mr Graham Dowling, cricketer, 58; Professor H.J. Eysenck, psychologist, 79; Mr Harvey Goldsmith, impresario, 49; Mr Jeff Grayshon, rugby league player, 46; Mr Bernard Haitink, conductor, 66; Mr John Hunt, former Headmaster, Roedean School, 63; Lord Johnston of Rockport, 80; Mr Ralph Kirshbaum, cellist, 49; Mr Stuart Mawson, otolaryngologist, 77; Mr Patrick Moore, astronomer, 72; Mr Alan Sillitoe, writer, 67; Mr Peter Skellern, composer and singer, 48; Sir Keith Stuart, chairman, Associated British Ports Holdings, 55.

Tomorrow

The Hon David Astor, CH, 83; *Lady Elizabeth Basser, extra* Woman of the Bedchamber to Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 87; the Right Rev Thomas Butler, Bishop of Leicester, 55; Admiral Sir Simon Cassels, 67; the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, 68; Mr Jim Dowd, MP, 44; Earl Grey, 56; Mr Anthony Hedges, composer, 64; Archbishop Bruno Heim, former Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, 84; Mr R.A.E. Herbert, former president, Royal Horticultural Society, 61; Mr Richard Hickox, conductor, 47; Mrs Ann Longley, Head Mistress, Roedean School, 53; Lord Macfarlane of Bearsden, 69; Miss Elspeth March, actress, 84; Lord Marshall of Goring, 63; Sir Derek Mitchell, civil servant, 73; Miss Elaine Paige, singer, 43; Sir Jack Rumbold, former president, Industrial Tribunals, 75; Mr Barry Tuckwell, horn soloist and conductor, 64; Mr Des Wilson, former co-chairman, Campaign for Freedom of Information, 54.



TONY WHITE

Danson House, unloved and derelict for 25 years, is now promised a three-year restoration programme

£2.3 million to save decaying mansion

BY JOHN YOUNG

ENGLISH Heritage is to spend £2.3 million on buying and restoring a grand Palladian house in southeast London which has been left to decay for a quarter of a century.

Government authorisation for the expenditure on Danson House in Bexley comes after years of wrangling, during which the house was allowed to become derelict and the fittings and decorations removed without authorisation. The work is expected to take up to three years.

The house, built in 1760 and listed Grade I, was designed by Sir Robert Taylor, one of the leading exponents of the Palladian movement, and is one of the few such villas to have survived largely unaltered. In 1924 the house and the park in which it stands, the work of Capability Brown, were acquired by Bexley council.

Since 1970 it has been empty, except for a brief period in the 1980s when it was occupied by Laurie Taylor, a builder, who planned to use it as offices and showrooms. In return he agreed to restore it, for which English Heritage authorised a grant of £324,000.

Only part of the grant was paid because of disagreement over the way the work was being carried out. In 1991 it was stripped of many of its rare and valuable decorative fittings, which police later recovered from a storeroom in another part of the country.

Further negotiations between English Heritage and the council came to nothing and Len Newton, then Conservative leader of the council, said he would "never vote a penny piece towards the cost of restoration". In September 1991 it was put on the market but failed to find a buyer.

Soon after last year's local elections, when Labour gained control with Liberal Democrat support, the council agreed in principle to transfer the house and stable block to English Heritage on a 999-year lease.

New uses for the house and stables will be examined while the repair work is in progress, and a purchaser will be sought for the stable block to defray part of the cost.

Jocelyn Stevens, chairman of English Heritage, said yesterday: "I am delighted that we are being allowed to save Danson House. It is one of London's great architectural masterpieces. I look forward to the time when the public will be able to enjoy it again."

Church services tomorrow

First Sunday in Lent

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch: 6.30 Choral E.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, Rt Rev R Hoare; 4 Choral E. Rev Canon N Dodds.

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Choral M, Almighty & Everlasting God (Gibbons); 10.30 Euch, Short Service (Batten), Canon K Parfitt; 4 Choral E, Miserere mei: Allegri, Canon R Impey.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Choral Euch, The Gloucester Mass (Shephard), O Mysterium ineffabile (Lallouette), *The Dean: 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Smith)*, Dyson in D, Salve salvaris victima (Phillips), Canon P Johnson.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M, Rt Rev P Nott; 11 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Langlais), Tristis est anima mea (Rildout), The Archdeacon; 3.15 E, Responses (Moore), St John's Service (Hendrie); 6.30 Compline, Rev P Brett.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, Prelude on St Peter (Darke), Darke in F, Stanford in B flat, *Lord for thy tender mercy's sake (Hilton), Postlude in G minor, Canon D Jenkins; 3 E, Responses* (Ebdon), Walmisley in D minor.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev R Cadman; 11.15 S Euch, Mass of the quiet hour (Oldroyd), Love bade me welcome (Vaughan Williams), The Provost; 6 E, Responses (Ebdon), Harwood in A flat, Orchard ty llygaid (Hopkin Evans), Canon D Knight.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Euch, Jackson in E, God be in my head (Rutter), Wash me throughly from my wickedness (Wesley), Canon D Conway; 11.30 Choral M, Responses (Ebdon), George Dyson in F, Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), Canon T Dennis; 3.30 Choral E, Responses (Ebdon), Pelham Humphrey in F minor, Blessed are they that mourn (Brahms); 6.30 ES, Canon T Dennis.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Sumsion in B flat, Responses (Ebdon), Tonus Peregrinus, Thou knowest Lord (Purcell), The Treasurer; 11 S Euch, Litany (Loosemore), Mass for four voices (Byrd), O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons), St 8 E Knapp-Fisher; 3.30 E, Responses (Ebdon), Fifth Service (Tomkins).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Litany (Leddington Wright), Missa de Angelis, Let thy merciful ears (Tallis), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Mrs M Sedgwick; 5.30 E, If ye love me (Tallis), Responses (Byrd), Faux bourdons (Camius Andreas), The Wilderness (Wesley).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8, 11.15 HC, Missa Brevis (Walton), Drop drop slow tears (Walton), The Dean; 10 M, O God of Bethel, Canon R Coppin; 3.30 E, The Chichester Service (Berkeley), Prayer of a prisoner (Ian Shaw).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Litany (Tallis), Mass for five voices (Byrd), Rev F Woolley; 3.45 E, Preces (Rose), Howells in G.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Litany (Day), *Herrick's Ode or* Psalme to God (Newbold), The Canon Precentor; 4 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, Responses (Aylewand), Thou wilt keep him (Wesley), The Canon Treasurer.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Darke in F, Canon S Hebblethwaite; 11.15 M, Responses (Smith), Benedicite in B flat (Sumsion), Benedictus in C (Stanford), My shepherd is the living Lord (Tomkins), The Precentor; 3.45 E, Second service (Gibbons), Responses (Smith), Miserere mei Deus (Byrd).

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), The *Lamentation* (Balfstow), Tanhun ergo (de Severac), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Responses (Stanford), Coll St Johannis Cantabrigiense (Howells), Jehova quam multi sunt (Purcell).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), Canon H Thomas; 3 Choral E, *Purcell in G minor, The Dean; 4 HC.*

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M; 8 HC, Rev J Bowen Harris; 9, 12.15 Euch; The Dean; 11 S Euch, Darke in A minor, Thou knowest Lord the secrets of our hearts (Purcell), Rev Boon-Hor Khoo; 3.30 Choral E, Walmisley in D minor, Remember O Lord what is come upon us (Walmisley); 6.30 E, Ven R Roberts.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Ireland in C, Canon B Duncan; 6.30 E, Noble in A minor, Rev J Jennings.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8, Canon I Bennett; 9.30, Mass for four voices/ Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Canon I Bennett; 6, Responses/Second Service (Byrd), Like as the hart (Howells).

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Litany (tallis), *Mass for four voices/Civitas sancti tui* (Byrd), Canon J Stancer; 11.30 M, Responses (Leighton), The Lamentation (Balfstow), Jesus Saviour of the world, Turn thy face from my sins (Attwood), Canon D Durston; 3 E, Responses (Leighton), Salisbury Service (Lloyd).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Euch, Five part mass (Byrd), Out of the deep (Morley), Drop drop slow tears (Gibbons), Rev Canon M Kitchen; 3 E, Noble in B minor, O sing joyfully (Batten), Rev Canon D Atkinson.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M, The Treasurer; 10 S Euch, Coll Eeg (Howells), Hear my prayer (Purcell), The Treasurer; 6 E, Responses (Morley), Westminster service (Howells), Lord let me know mine end (Greene), The Dean.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Ireland *in C, It was in that train (Barry Ferguson), Rev P* Walker; 11.30 M, Sumsion in B flat, Ireland in C, Call to remembrance (Farrant); 3 E, Walmisley in D, Lord let me know mine end (Greene), Rev C Farran.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Responses (Tallis), Benedicite (Batten), Hear my prayer, O Lord (Tomkins), Canon D Gray; 11.15 Euch, Darke in F, Was me throughly (Wesley), Ave verum corpus (Elgar), *Rev J Goodall*; 3.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30, 7 *M; 10 MP; 10.30 SM, Asperges me (plainsong),* Mass for four voices/Be irascaris Domine/Civitas sancti tui (Byrd); 3, Rite of Election; 5 V.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Benedictus (Moore), Litany (Walton), Epilogue (Howells), Rev C Stewart; 11.30 Euch, Missa brevis (Palestrina), Prelude & Fugue in A minor (Bach); 3.30 E, Second Service/Emendemus in melius (Byrd), Fantasia (Phillips), Canon Walker.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Litany (Loosemore), Missa Brevis (Palestrina), V Rev R Furneli; *11.30 M, The Lamentation (Balfstow),* Benedictus in A (Stanford), Responses (Hackson); 4 E, Hereford Service (Shephard), Jehova quam multi sunt hostes (Purcell), Rev Canon R Metcalfe.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Tructibus (Lord), Jackson in G, The Dean; 3.30 Choral E, Watson in E, Responses (Byrd), Wash me throughly (SS Wesley).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM: 11.30 SM, Missa Castenea (Roger Heagney), Sicut Cervus (Palestrina), Ubi Caritas (Durufle), Fr P Turner.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 MS & HC, Rev Dr J Philip Newell; 10, Mass for four voices (Byrd), The Minister; 11.30 MS, Call to Remembrance (Hilton), The Minister; 8 ES, Rev J Cuthbertson.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, 10.15 M, 3.15 ES, By the water of Babalyon (Willis), The Dean.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 HC; 11 Rev Preb R Bewes; 6.30 Mr L Brown.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa quo abiit (Manchicourt), O Lord increase my faith (Gibbons), *Let thy merciful ears (Weelkes).*

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children; 11 C, Rev P Elvy; 6 E, Rev P Elvy.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 HC, Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 6.15, 8.15; 11.15 M, Missa Tertia (Casciolini), Super flumina Babylonis (Palestrina), Miserere mei (Lotti), Ave verum corpus (Viadana), Fr V Hawe.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC, Rev S Downham; 11 Informal, *Rev N Gumbel; 5, 7.30 Informal, Mr R Costa.*

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass; Weston Way Sweetest, Super flumina Babylonis (Victoria), 12.30, 4.30, 7 M: 3.30 V & B, Domine Converterre (Lassus).

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, Iverna Gardens W8: 11 MP, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 MS & HC, Rev P Hulme.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R Allan Tudor.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Rev A Whitter; 6.30 E, Rev Brooke Lunn.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral Euch, Mass for three voices (Byrd), When David heard (Tomkins), Rev B McAvoy.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, Rev J McIndoe; 6.30 Rev C MacLeod.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM, Missa sine nomine (Jusquin), *Laboravi in gemitu meo* (Caldara).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Casciolini), The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, S James' Choir, John Paul Rector, St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe Queen Victoria St; 5.30 Choral E.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 12.15, 10.30 S Euch, Christe est regnum Coelorum (Victoria), Lord for thy tender mercy's sake (Farrant or Hilton), Rev D Watson; 6.30 E, Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), Rt Rev D Arden.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Missa Orbis Factor — In letunio (Thomas Tallis), Rev T Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 S Euch, Canon A Haggis; 3 E, Responses (Smith), Remember not O Lord (Purcell), Rev D Wilkes.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8, 12.30 HC, *Rev W Reichford; 9.45 Euch, Rev I Gunner; 11.30* Visitors, Rev B Schunemann; 2.45 Chinese, Rev G Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES, The Vicar.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev F Gelli; 11.15 Choral M, The Vicar; 6.30 Choral E, The Vicar.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 7.30, 11.30 LM; 6.30 HM, Mass for four voices (Byrd).

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Plainsong Mass, Remember not O Lord our offences (Purcell), Rev L van der Pump; 6 Choral E, Gibbons short service, Lord let me know mine end (Greene).

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Missa brevis (Palestrina), In te Domine speravi (Schutz), The Rector; 6.30 Ministry of Healing, Rev K Morris.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Palestrina), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Venes mese electa (Poulenc), Rev K Joyce.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Euch: 11 S Euch, Missa se la face ay pale (Dufay), *Audi benigne conditor, Rev D B Tilyer.*

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM, Missa brevis (Palestrina), Domine convertere (Lassus), Super flumina babylonis (Palestrina), Canon C Colven; 6 B & stations of cross.

ST GEORGE'S CHAPEL, Windsor Castle: 8.30 HC; 10.45 M, Responses (Statham), Benedicite in A (Harris), Canon J White; 11.45 S Euch, Mass in G (Poulenc); 5.15 E, Responses (Leighton), Coll Mag Oxon (Leighton), Evening Hymn (Marx).

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Psalm 51, Hymns 92, 94, 300, Preb Leighton Thomson.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 S Euch, Missa Matri Dei (Jackson), Canon G Pedley.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 M; 11 Choral Euch, O Magnum Mysterium (Victoria), Missa de angelis, Ave verum corpus (Phillips); 3.30 E, Lord for thy tender mercy's sake (Farrant/Hilton), Short Service (Gibbons), Beatus vir (Monteverdi).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa super mon coeur se recommande a vous (Lassus), In leunio et fleu (Tallis), Rev S Hobbs.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Byrd & Palestrina, Canon J Townroe.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (William Smith), Dyson in F, The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 Choral HC, Aeterna Christe munera (Palestrina), Ave verum (Byrd), Rev B Gilbert.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Call to remembrance (Richarde Farrant), Nojo montem peccatoris (Thomas Morley), Rev C French.

Memorial services

Sir Nicholas Fairbairn of Fordell, QC, MP

The Prime Minister was represented by the Lord Advocate at a memorial service for Sir Nicholas Fairbairn of Fordell, QC, MP, held yesterday at St John's Kirk, Perth. The Rev D.D. Ogston officiated. Mr Cosmo Fairbairn, brother, read the lesson. Baroness Thatcher, OM, read from Kahlil Gibran's *The Prophet*. Mr Ian Lang, Secretary of State for Scotland, and Mr Martin Robb, Conservative Constituency Chairman for Perth and Kinross, paid tribute.

The Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern and the Lord Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross and Lady Butter attended. Among others present were:

Lady Fairbairn of Fordell (widow), Miss Anna-Karina Fairbairn and Miss Francesca Fairbairn (daughters), Mr and Mrs Ross Pople (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Eleanor Birtles (sister), Mrs Cosmo Fairbairn (sister-in-law), the Hon Elizabeth Fairbairn and other *members of the family.*

Mr Timothy Kirkhope, MP, (representing the Chief Whip's Office), Sir Michael Hirst (chairman, Scottish Conservative Party in Scotland) and *Lady Hirst with Mr* David McLetchie (president), Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight (Lord Lion King of Arms), Mr R C Tyrrell (chairman, National Trust for Scotland) and Mr John Godfrey with many other friends.

Sir Anthony Throckmorton

A memorial service for Sir Anthony Throckmorton was held yesterday at St Bener's Minster, Beccles, Suffolk. Father Adrian Gales officiated, assisted by Father Anthony Skeach. Mr Benjamin Marriner, godson, read the lesson and the Rev Roger Anders gave an address.

Dinner

Woolmen's Company

The Princess Royal, Master of the Woolmen's Company, presided at a dinner held last night at Merchants' Hall, Edinburgh. Professor Ewan Brown was guest of honour and Sir Ronald Miller also spoke. The Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern, and the Lord Provost of Edinburgh and Mrs Irons were among the guests.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.D. Armstrong and Miss S.A. Grossart

The engagement is announced between Douglas, son of the late Mr Robert Armstrong and of Mrs Evelyn Armstrong, of Edinburgh, and Sally, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Kenneth Grossart, of Fintry, Stirlingshire.

Mr J.E.L. Grand and Mlle M.C.M. Wacongne

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Laurence Grand, of Chapel Amble, Cornwall, and Maylis, elder daughter of M and *Mme Wacongne, of Versailles,* France.

Major J.S. Hay, retd, and Mrs A. Gilbert

The engagement is announced between Major John Hay, retd, of Cheltenham, and Mrs Ann Gilbert, of Newnham-on-Severn, Gloucestershire.

Mr C.J. Newman and Miss T.E. Allen

The engagement is announced between Clive, son of Dr and Mrs Ian Newman, of Nottingham, and Tracy, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Allen, of Welton, Northamptonshire.

Lieutenant J.M. O'Brien and Miss G.E. May

The engagement is announced between James, only son of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs T.E. O'Brien, of Southampton, and Georgina, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A.W. May, of Waltham St Lawrence, Berkshire.

Dr R. Stanton and The Hon Clare Norrie

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs John Stanton, of Finchley, London, and Clare, elder daughter of Lord and Lady Norrie, of Hungerford, Berkshire.

Mr J.N. Weston and Miss A.M. Irving

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, youngest son of Mrs Yvonne Weston, of Kempston, Bedfordshire, and of the late Mr Richard G.N. Weston, and Audrey Maxwell, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Irving, of Warren, NSW, Australia.

Marriage

Mr D.C. Groves and Miss V.M.G. Phelips

A service of blessing was held on Saturday, February 25, 1995, at St Catherine's Church, Montacute, Somerset, following the marriage of Mr Desmond Groves, only son of Mrs Edward Walker and stepson of Mr Edward Walker, of Exeter, to Miss Vivien Phelips, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Harry Phelips, of Lympstone, Devon.

The bride was attended by Mrs Alison Holland and Frances and Philippa Holland.

A reception was held at Montacute House and the honeymoon is being spent in France.

Service dinner

The Red Rose Club

Officers of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry held their annual Red Rose Dinner last night at Kearsley House, Wigan. Colonel Sir Simon Towneley, Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, and Major General Sir Michael Palmer, Honorary Colonel, presided. *Representatives of the Lancashire* Lieutenancy, the Duchy of Lancaster, *HMS Lancaster*, the King's Royal Hussars and the Royal Mercian and Lancastrian Yeomanry were amongst those present.

Beachborough School

We are updating our records and would welcome career details and current addresses of pre-1980 pupils. Contact: Headmaster, Beachborough, Westbury, Brackley, Northamptonshire, NN13 5LB. (Fax 01280 704839).



TRADE: 0171 481 1982
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 0171 481 9313
FAX: 0171 782 7828

There I gave my statutes to them and taught them my laws; it is by keeping them that mortals have life. Ezekiel 20 : 11 (REB).

BIRTHS

BEEVOR - On February 22nd, to Tamsin (née Wilson) and Roland, a daughter, Rosanna Helen.

BERRIDGE - On February 6th, to New Hampshire, USA, to Marilyn and Andrew, a son, Brian Andrew, a brother for Samuel.

BLACKBURN - To Victoria (née Science) and James, a son, Max Benjamin Louis, in New York on 22nd February.

BROMLEY-DAVENPORT - On February 27th, in Cheshire, to Emma (née Harper) and Nick, a son, Harry Nicholas.

COOMBER - On February 24th 1995, to Cheryl (née King) and Brian, a daughter, Bethany Imogen.

de JASAY - On February 28th, to Lucinda (née Douglas-Menzies) and Anthony, a daughter.

GREW - On 1st March, to Anna (née Mickiem) and Jonathan, a son.

HALL - On February 16th, to Susan (née Bacon) and Stephen, a beautiful daughter, Ella Patricia Jane.

JONES - To Neil and Ann (née Morrod), a daughter, Emily Rensa, on 1st March in Perth, Australia. A beautiful sister for Ryan Michael.

LEE - On February 23rd, in New Jersey, USA, to Fiona (née Andrews) and Simon, a daughter, Alice, a sister for Rebecca.

LE SEELLEUR - On New Year's Eve, to Naomi (née Surgeon) and Kevin, a beautiful daughter, Danielle Kathleen Emma.

MORRISS - Julie and David on 25rd February, a son, Archie Wynn. A special thank you to York S.C.B.U.

BIRTHS

O'DAY - On February 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Sue and Brian O'Day, a son, Connor Patrick, a brother for Kelsey Morgan.

RACZ - On 28th February at The Portland Hospital, to Patrick and Carol (née Kenyon), a bouncing baby boy - Jake Alexander.

SHACKLEY - On February 14th, to Nadine and Mike, a daughter, Alice Catherine Maria, a sister for Emily and April. The perfect Valentine's Day present!

SHEPHERD-BARRON - On February 26th 1995, to Joanna (née Marlow) and Andrew, a daughter, Emily Charlotte, a sister for William and Annabel.

TATHAM - On February 23rd, in Paris, to Heather (née Allen) and Charles, a daughter, Jessica Rose.

DEATHS

ANDERSON - Walter Charles CBE LLb, former General Secretary of NALGO, on 1st March 1995 after a short illness at Watford General Hospital. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Bushey Heath, Herts., at 11.45 am on Friday 10th March. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to British Diabetic Association.

HAINES - Dr Richard Wheeler, on February 7th, at Shotgrange in Yorkshire, aged 88. Much loved head of a large family: anatomist, botanist, and teacher.

JOHNSTONE - On 3rd March 1995, peacefully in hospital, Kathleen aged 76. Much loved mother of Sara and grandmother of William, Camilla, Laura and Naomi. Funeral Service at the Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, nr. Crawley, on Wednesday 8th March 1995 at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to St John's Church, Dormansland. Enquiries to Ballard and Shortall, (01342) 832282.

DEATHS

JUDGE - Percy William (Bill). Peacefully on March 2nd. Loved and loving husband of Peggy, dear father of Barbara, Robert and Alan, father-in-law of Susan and Jean, and Grandpa of Peter, John, Emma, Matthew and Rhys. He will be missed by his many relations and friends. Thanksgiving Service at St Paul's Church, Brackley Road, Beckenham at 2 pm on Friday 10th March, followed by cremation. Family flowers only but donations if desired, to Beckenham Abbeyfield Society c/o Copelands, 9 Bromley Road, Beckenham, BR3 2NT.

LEWIS - Brian Harwood. Died January 4, 1995 in Paris. Born April 9, 1927 in Wallasey, England. Survived by daughters Ann and Jennifer and his brother and family all of whom reside in Canada.

MATHEW - On 19th February 1995, Archie, aged 81 years, at Cootham House. Much loved father and grandfather.

MEREDITH WILLIAMS - On March 1st 1995, Grace Isobel died peacefully at Glebe House Nursing Home, aged 96. Devoted wife of the late Morris and much loved aunt and great-aunt. Funeral at St Peter and St Paul, Northleach, Glos., on Tuesday 7th March at 2.30pm. Family flowers only.

O'REGAN - On Saturday February 25th, suddenly but peacefully at home in Marlborough, Michael Lionel Victor Rowan Hamilton, aged 78. Beloved husband to Friedel, wonderful father to Michael, 'Daddy Mike' to Jane, Hannah, Cordelia and Fergus, and an inspirational teacher to generations of schoolchildren. There will be a private cremation on 8th March, and a Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Marldenough at 11.30 am on Saturday 18th March. No flowers by request please but any donations, if desired, to Save the Children, c/o Diane Mackinder, Thomas Free & Sons, Funeral Directors, The Parade, Marlborough, Wilts. tel: (0672) 512110.

DEATHS

POLAND - Kenneth Brian aged 62 years passed away at home on Monday 27th February 1995 after an illness endured with courage and dignity. Beloved by wife Kathleen, sons David and Robert, father-in-law William and grandchild James. Will be sadly missed by all who knew him, including those who knew and acquainted Ken through his profession as a dental technician. Service at Eltham Crematorium SE9, Monday March 13th, 12 noon. Flowers or donations if desired to: Cancer Concern c/o 9 Heathview Drive, Abbeywood, London SE2 0AZ.

PRICE - John L.W. Price C.V.O. - devoted father of Anthony and Angela - died peacefully on 1st March after a long illness while being nursed superlatively by the staff of Gloucester House, Sevenoaks. Cremation at Mortlake Crematorium Wednesday 8th March at 3.30 pm. No flowers please but donations to the Royal Surgical Aid Soc., Sevenoaks TN13 3NU.

REA - On February 27th 1995, Jennifer Pauline, daughter of Eric Rea. Funeral at 2 pm on Wednesday 15th March at Parish Church of Cirencester. No flowers. Enquiries (01703) 851764.

SAYBE - Julia Margaret of Wilton, peacefully on 1st March at The Macmillan Unit, Odstock. She will be sadly missed. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Wednesday 8th March at 1.40 pm. Flowers or donations to The Macmillan Unit c/o D.K. Shergold, 159-161 Fisherton Street, Salisbury.

STONE - On 2nd March, peacefully at home, aged 75 years, Brian, husband of Pat, father of Robbie, Jeremy, Martin, Oren and Michael, stepfather of Jane, Sara and Richard. Funeral Service on Tuesday March 7th at 4.30pm at Mortlake Crematorium. Family flowers. Donations to The Friends of Queen Mary's Hospital Roehampton c/o Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, W8 6LA.

DEATHS

TIDY - On 18th February, Captain George Albert Tidy, passed away after a short illness, aged 91. The cremation service was at Beckenham on March 1st. He is survived by his sister Violet of Broadway, Worcester. He will long be remembered by all who knew him.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

CORNFIELD - The funeral of Bernie Cornfield will take place on Monday afternoon at The Progressive Cemetery in Edgwarebury Lane at 4pm.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

ARBUTHNOT - Flying Officer Nicholas Agnew RAF (VR) Pilot Lancaster No.12 Squadron 4th March 1945. Fifty years on remembered always with his gallant and devoted Air crew. Per Ardua Ad Astra. With love and pride. Ginny and Peter.

MARRIAGES

WILLIAMS-DAVIES - On February 26th 1

OBITUARIES

BRIGADIER ARTHUR HARDY

Brigadier Arthur Hardy, MBE, MC, former commandant of the Royal Artillery's air defence school, died on February 19 aged 80. He was born on February 18, 1915.



ARTHUR HARDY won an immediate Military Cross in the Western Desert when he led his artillery unit on a near-suicide mission at the Battle of Sidi Rezegh in November 1941. The action took place as Rommel counter-attacked the British advance, codenamed Crusader, which was an attempt by the Eighth Army to reoccupy Cyrenaica and link up with the Australian garrison in Tobruk.

The garrison, which had been strongly reinforced by sea with a brigade of tanks, was to break out as the relieving force approached the beleaguered fortress. It was Churchill's hope that the German and Italian armies might thus be caught between two fires and totally destroyed.

But initial British progress was halted by the vigour of the German riposte at Sidi Rezegh. As the German panzers thrust forward, two troops of J Battery 3rd Royal Horse Artillery (RHA), one of which was commanded by Hardy, were ordered to take up position in front of the British positions, to provide a forward screen against the enemy.

Each was armed with a mounted two-pounder anti-tank gun whose 40mm solid shot was, however, woefully inadequate to its task, since it was only effective against German 50mm thick armour at the close range of 500 yards. And the British anti-tank artillery was outranged by the 57mm guns mounted by the latest marks of the German Panzerkampfwagen III (although Rommel still had a number of the old 37mm gun tanks).

The fact that the German counterstroke had achieved complete tactical surprise momentarily rendered the British position perilous in the extreme, notwithstanding that the Eighth Army had a large overall numerical superiority in tanks. Rommel's chief asset lay in his own anti-tank guns, his new, long-barrelled, high-velocity 50mm cannon providing him with a high degree of security against British tank thrusts, since it could penetrate 86mm of armour at 500 yards. The British Crusader tanks, which Churchill had had rushed to Egypt from Britain in the important "Tiger" convoy to give decisive punch to the Crusader campaign, were with their 40mm armour an easy prey to such a weapon and suffered heavy casualties.

Nevertheless the bravery and acumen displayed by Hardy in the ensuing battle — which was conducted throughout with a ferocity not until then seen in the desert campaign — led later to warm tributes being paid to his leadership. Along with the other troop commander, Lieutenant Gunn, and the battery commander, Major Pinney, he was actually recommended for a Victoria Cross. But only Gunn received the supreme award for gallantry. Hardy having to be content with the award of an MC.

Pinney was in fact killed shortly afterwards while Hardy, wounded in the leg in a later engagement, was evacuated to hospital in this country. He recovered, to establish a reputation after the war as a leading gunnery tactician of his day, and was at one time chief instructor at the School of Artillery, Larkhill.

Yet he had started his long gunner's career in the ranks — and against the wishes and fears of his own parents. Born in Leicester, Horace Arthur Hardy was a tailor's son. He had always set his heart on being a soldier but his parents' memories of the slaughter on the Western Front during the First World War made them reluctant to endorse such an ambition.

The young Hardy had therefore to bide his time, taking a succession of local jobs, until he was 21 — the age of majority in those days — and accordingly able to take such decisions for himself. In spite of his parents' misgivings he joined the 3rd RHA's M battery, with which he served in Palestine and Egypt before the war — winning much accelerated promotion to Warrant Officer Class III, a now defunct rank. He was granted a wartime commission in April 1941, just in time to assume command of a troop for the Crusader offensive.

After the wounds he sustained in North Africa, Hardy spent some time in hospital in England. When he came out he was seconded to the public relations directorate of the Army where he remained until the beginning of 1945.

He returned to his career with the artillery early in 1945 when he was posted to an anti-tank training regiment in Shoeburyness as an instructor. His wartime commission was converted to a regular commission and he next went on the long gunnery course at Larkhill. He was to spend much of the next quarter of a century as an instructor.

He taught at the School of Artillery in Deolali, near Bombay — returning at the time of Partition to a similar post in Britain. Then in the early 1950s he served in the Canal Zone in Egypt, where he was promoted major and appointed a battery commander with 6th Field Regiment. He moved with the regiment to West Germany, where it was deployed at Hohne in Lower Saxony, before being made the British Army of the Rhine's senior gunnery instructor at the Northern Army Group ranges.

Promoted lieutenant-colonel in 1959, he took command of 32nd Medium Regiment, first in Hong Kong before returning with it to Germany where it was based at Dortmund. For his next appointment he was once more sent back to Larkhill, this time as chief instructor and a full colonel.

Hardy was made a brigadier in 1964, becoming Commander Royal Artillery (CRA) of 49th West Riding and North Midlands TA Division. This was followed by his final appointment as commandant of the anti-aircraft school at Manorbier, Pembrokeshire — curiously his first job in air defence. He became an ADC to the Queen at the same time.

After retiring from the Army in 1970 he became for a while secretary of the Constitutional Club in Bristol, but regarded that as more of a paid pastime than a second career.

In his youth he had been a keen photographer and a radio enthusiast. But, as the years went by and his military responsibilities grew, the Army, and the study of gunnery in particular, absorbed him entirely. Although he had no difficulty in unbending, he was above everything a dedicated professional and perfectionist.

Arthur Hardy is survived by his wife Elizabeth, the one-time physiotherapist who cared for him when he was wounded in the war, and by one son.

KARL GRUBER

Karl Gruber, Foreign Minister of Austria, 1945-53, died on February 1 aged 85. He was born on May 3, 1909.



AS AUSTRIA'S Foreign Minister in the immediate postwar years, Karl Gruber proved to be a forceful and effective figure who managed, in often difficult circumstances, to consolidate his country's relations with the Western powers — on which it ultimately depended — while combining firmness with conciliation in his dealings with the Russians.

His period in office from 1945 to 1953 was a crucial time for Austria, and for Europe, during which two subjects primarily engaged him. The first was the long drawn-out process of negotiation with the victorious Allies, who continued to occupy Austria until October 1955. These negotiations eventually resulted, after several setbacks, in the full restoration of Austria as an independent country on the right side of the Iron Curtain.

The second was the brave but unsuccessful effort to redress one of the anomalies of the Versailles settlement whereby the German-speaking population of the South Tyrol had, without any true justification been transferred to Italy — where it remains today.

Gruber was himself a Tyroler. Tall and fair, he took a law degree in Vienna and then became an electrical engineer working at the Austrian General Post Office.

Following the Anschluss he disappeared into the Tyrol Mountains — one jump ahead of the Gestapo — where deserters and a few partisans were beginning to harass the Germans. Gruber became their leader and led the liberation of Innsbruck from Nazi troops, liaising with United States agents in Switzerland under the direction of Allen Dulles. He thus helped to prepare the way for the entry of American forces and in the process became provincial governor. He went on to become Austria's Foreign Minister after the first post-war elections held in November 1945.

His first concern was to regain for Austria the industrial resources that had been first seized by Nazi Germany and then, after the war, by the Soviet Union. These resources accounted for 70 per cent of the Austrian economic output. He then set about pressing the Allies for the withdrawal of the occupation forces.

However, the final reward — the signing of a State Treaty with Austria by the Allies, ending the occupation and recognising Austrian independence — was denied Gruber personally because of friction that developed between him and some of his political colleagues. This was brought to a head by the publication of a book, *Between Liberation and Liberty*, in which he alleged that the Federal Chancellor, Leopold Fiegl, and others had gone behind the backs of their Socialist coalition partners by offering the Communist Party more influence in the Government in exchange for a promise to obtain concessions from the Soviet Union. Gruber expressed his regrets but was forced to resign.

The Government, loath to lose his services completely, sent him to Washington as Ambassador, a post he handled with distinction from 1954 to 1957, feeling a natural affinity with Americans. He afterward held embassies in Madrid, Bonn, and Berne, and served a second term in Washington, 1970-73. He also held various official posts at home including that of special adviser to the International Atomic Energy Agency from 1958 to 1960.

In 1986, he returned to the public arena briefly to defend the reputation of Kurt Waldheim, the former United Nations Secretary-General who was campaigning for election as Austrian President. Describing himself as Dr Waldheim's "first boss after the war", Gruber said that Waldheim had been his secretary in the Foreign Ministry from 1946, having been recommended by his predecessor, Fritz Molden, an Austrian anti-Nazi resistance fighter who wore a US lieutenant's uniform as a member of the then Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the Central Intelligence Agency. Molden later married the daughter of Allen Dulles, the first CIA chief. Gruber maintained that Waldheim was a good democrat who was never a Nazi.

As a public figure, Karl Gruber was an attractive personality who combined a Siegfried-like physical presence with a forceful intelligence that won him continuing popular regard. Throughout his career he was greatly assisted by his wife, formerly Helga Ahlgrimm, who survives him. There were no children.

MICHAEL WICKHAM

Michael Wickham, furniture maker and designer, died on January 23 aged 85. He was born on August 11, 1909.



AN ARTIST, photographer, furniture maker, gardener, musician and gastronome, Michael Wickham was an inspired "Jack-of-all-arts". He had a huge visual influence on the designer Sir Terence Conran, and made furniture for Conran's Habitat shop in the Fulham Road, when it opened in 1964.

Michael Whalley Wickham was educated at Marlborough College and studied portrait and landscape painting at the Royal Academy. He then lived with an artistic community near Cassis, with the painter Braque and the sculptor Varda. In 1938 he took part in the Mass Observation scheme, a social survey of Bolton, carried out under the direction of Tom Harrisson by artists and poets such as Julian Trevelyan and Stephen Spender. He had already joined the Communist Party and he remained a member until 1956 when the Soviet tanks entered Hungary. During the war he taught himself engineering and mathematics, worked on munitions and helped design the first plastic fuel systems for Spitfires.

After the war he helped to set up the Council for Industrial Design in 1947, and when escorting the young Princess Elizabeth on a visit to the council shocked conventionalists by wearing bright pink socks and a brown bowler. In 1948 he began work as a fashion photographer on *Vogue* magazine and in 1949 joined the team of the new *House and Garden*.

Through *House and Garden* he met Terence Conran in the early 1950s and together they toured France on a holiday which was to change the latter's view on life: "I had only seen dreary old Britain and Michael opened my eyes to a whole new way of living. We drove off in a Lagonda and sketched and ate and argued furiously about communism, looked at architecture and slept in ditches." They sought out the ironmongers in every town and Conran talked about opening a shop to sell a selection of what they found. In the late 1950s Douglas Collins, the perfumer, sponsored Wickham in a workshop in London and he began to design and make handmade furniture for the first Habitat.

Wickham's talents and industry were boundless. He could apparently make anything, and if he did not have the tool with which to make it, would make the tool. He taught himself to play the piano and played Bach every morning. He was also a good linguist, speaking French, Spanish and Italian, and in 1960 he began Russian lessons, eventually being able to read all the Russian classics.

During the 1980s he reverted to painting but perhaps his greatest work was his home at the National Trust village of Coleshill, on the Berkshire-Wiltshire border. This had once been the laundry to the English renaissance mansion of Coleshill House (burnt to the ground in 1952). The ground plan of the house was planted with beds and edging forming a true replica, adorned with pots, tables, statues, greenhouses, compost heaps, cats and watering cans.

Wickham remained in his workshop, his studio or his garden until the day he died. He would occasionally break off to sit at his 12 ft-wide elm circular kitchen table. Huge though it was, it always seemed to be overflowing with flowers, home-made jams, olives, wine, French china, other people's children and visitors. The company was as eclectic as the contents — one might meet the Editor of *The Guardian*, the local Tory MP, the Prince of Wales or the architect Jim Stirling.

He first married Peggy Earnshaw, herself a painter; secondly the Russian painter Tatiana Van Langendonk; thirdly the writer Cynthia Blackburn; and fourthly Denny Andrews. She survives him, together with four sons and three daughters.

PROFESSOR G. B. A. FLETCHER

G. B. A. Fletcher, Professor of Classics, 1937-46, and then of Latin, 1946-69, at King's College, Newcastle upon Tyne, died on February 8 aged 91. He was born on November 28, 1903.



THE clue to Geoffrey Fletcher's career lay in the four years he spent at King's College, Cambridge, in the 1920s. It was not merely that he obtained firsts in both parts of the Classical Tripos. He also fell under the spell of A. E. Housman, whose scholarship he revered and whose poetry he was later to publish. Housman became his model, not just as a classicist but for his whole approach to life.

Geoffrey Bernard Abbott Fletcher was educated at Rugby School and King's College, Cambridge. After a year as a research student, in 1927 he became an assistant lecturer in Classics at Leeds. In 1928 he moved as lecturer in Greek to Liverpool, where he spent the next six years. He arrived in Newcastle (King's College was then part of the University of Durham) as a fully-fledged professor in 1937 and remained there for the rest of his career, seeing the old King's College develop into the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in 1963.

As Head of Classics for 32 years he brought about its significant expansion. In particular, he saw to it that the classical holdings in the university college's library matched those in virtually any other provincial academic institution. He was especially proud of the fact that of the young academics whom he appointed as junior colleagues at least ten subsequently became professors themselves.

Fletcher was a prolific scholar. Between 1927 and 1992 he published, in addition to a monograph (*Annotations on Tacitus*, 1964), more than eighty papers on a wide variety of authors, texts and topics — usually Latin but sometimes Greek and occasionally English. These publications reveal an unparalleled knowledge of ancient literature and a prodigious memory, although their unique and minimalist style, coupled with his tendency to correct the mistakes he detected in the work of other scholars, did not endear him to all his colleagues — and drew from *Eduard Fraenkel the sobriquet "Fletcherismus"*.

Yet, despite the Housman-like persona which emerges from his writings, there were no lengths to which he would not go in order to perform a scholarly service for those who ventured to ask for his help; the prefaces to numerous classical works testify to the frequency with which he placed his learning at the disposal of other academics.

Fletcher lived the life of a gentleman scholar, looked after by a housekeeper and surrounded by his fabled library of roughly 20,000 volumes. He loved music (Mozart was his favourite), played the piano and watched cricket. In earlier days he would travel on the Continent with Sir Frank Adcock (1886-1968), Professor of Ancient History at Cambridge and a fellow Kingsman, in order to visit art galleries and enjoy architecture. Otherwise, he had very few close friends and — like Housman — was an intensely private man who for much of his life discouraged even the normal human courtesies.

Yet for many years he received regular letters from those former students in whom he inspired affection; and after retirement, when his guard had dropped a little, he delighted to exchange academic gossip with former colleagues.

He never married.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ORDER BARING SECURITIES (LONDON) LIMITED
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PUBLIC NOTICES

DAVID FRANCIS SHERLOCK and GEORGE RICHARD SHERLOCK

TAKE NOTICE THAT: V C Boundy of 18A Inglethorpe Street, Fulham and K J F Anderson of 18D Inglethorpe Street, Fulham intend to apply to the Court in respect of 18 Inglethorpe Street, Fulham:
1. for the appointment of a Manager under Section 24 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1987; and/or
2. for a vesting order under the Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development Act 1993.
The grounds upon which the above orders will be sought are that you have failed since October 1991 to insure the said premises and to comply with your covenants as landlords.
YOU ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE YOUR WHEREABOUTS KNOWN BY WRITING TO THE ADDRESS GIVEN BELOW WITHIN 14 DAYS.
The address of V C Boundy and K J F Anderson for service of notices (including notice in proceedings) is c/o Ashurst Morris Crisp, Broadwalk House, 5 Appold Street, London EC2A 2HA, reference AGB/A29300026

PUBLIC NOTICES

Land at 53 Clifteville Road St. Leonards on sea, East Sussex. Leasehold reform Act 1967. Anyone having an interest in the freehold of the above-mentioned land should contact the undermentioned solicitors without delay Brighton Housing Trust 65 Grove Road, Eastbourne East Sussex, BN21 4UH Ref. M4M/KE8 Tel: 01323-642615.

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NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.
GAUDER, BRIAN CLIFFORD LANCELOT of 185 LINDEN COURT, BRUNSWICK ROAD, EALING, LONDON W5 DIED 18TH JULY 1994. PARTICULARS TO KEITH HALL, JUVELER & CO 422 GREENFORD ROAD, GREENFORD, MIDDX UB6 9AG. BEFORE 9TH MAY 1995.
POFFLEY, JESSE MAY, 9 THE STRAND, SANDERSFOOT, DYFED DIED 4 JULY 1993: PARTICULARS TO PIPER SMITH & BASHAM 31 WARWICK SQUARE, LONDON SW1V 2AF Ref PO97/2-MB-GNJ BEFORE 6 MAY 1995
VARDY SYDNEY late of 9 CELLARHILL TERRACE, GRASSWELL, HOUGHTON LE SPRING, TYNE AND WEAR DH4 4EB died 22 NO February 1995 Particulars to Lees & Mather, 1 Sunderland Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear DH4 4BG

YOUNG, MARY CONSTANCE of 6 NEPEAN STREET, ROEHAMPTON, SW15 died on 8TH JANUARY 1994 particulars to CLOVERS Solicitors of 118 PARK STREET, LONDON W1Y 4DY (Ref: Attn: BERNADETTE NOLAND before 8TH MAY 1995

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TICKETS FOR SALE
When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment. Most sports tickets are subject to strict re-sale and transfer rules.

TICKETS for Sale: Take That Brussels (Belgium) March 19. John Tel. 01033 3248.0637.

WANTED

S.O.S! Au-Pair. Au-Pair wanted for Germany (region of Heidelberg) Age 18-24, to stay between 6 and 12 months. Phone 010 49 7945 3944 (from 5 p.m. on) Box No 4194

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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DOCTOR SENT TO PRISON.

WOMAN PATIENT'S DEATH.

At Durham Assizes yesterday, the trial was concluded of DR. EDWARD ERNEST WILLIS, 50, of New Herrington, on the indictment charging him with the manslaughter of Eleanor Davison, the young wife of a miner. It was alleged by the prosecution that the woman's death was due to his negligence in performing a serious operation for eclampsia; that when he first called at the house he was under the influence of drink, and the woman's husband refused to allow him to operate; and that when he called some hours later and operated the woman was never properly under the influence of the anæsthetic. After an absence of 35 minutes the jury found Dr. Willis *Guilty* and MR. JUSTICE BRAY sentenced him to 12 months' imprisonment in the second division.

Dr. Willis, continuing his evidence, said that while he was on war service in Egypt he suffered from malaria, to which he had previously been subject. He denied in cross-examination that he was in the least under the influence of drink when he first called at the house.

Mr. Mitchell Innes.—Can you suggest why, if there were no symptoms of drunkenness shown by yourself, they came to the conclusion you were drunk?—Because probably I smelt of it.

The witness said it was quite true that before going to the house at 6.30 he had had drink, but he was certainly not under its influence. He did not remember Mrs. Davison calling out during the operation. People generally called out under an anæsthetic. It was not true she was calling out more or less all the time.

After the jury's verdict, letters were put in stating that Dr. Willis had always borne the highest character.

ON THIS DAY

March 4 1922

A doctor was said to have called at a patient's house when under the influence of drink and later to have operated on her while she was not sufficiently anaesthetised. The patient died and he was sent to prison.

MOTORIST ACQUITTED BUT CENSURED.

Before Mr. Justice Darling, at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, JOHN SYDNEY KING, 20, on bail, was found *Not Guilty* of *the manslaughter of William Albert Haines*, aged 15, a Post Office messenger, who was knocked down by the defendant's motor-car while cycling in the Uxbridge-road, Acton, on the night of January 5.

The foreman of the jury said it was the unanimous opinion that the defendant should be severely censured for his callous conduct in driving on after the accident.

MR. JUSTICE DARLING.—I entirely agree with what the jury have said, and I hope it will be a lesson for you at least to be more humane and show more consideration for people who suffer, even if the suffering is not caused by your negligence. The Judge added that the defendant's father had behaved admirably in the matter. Directly he heard of the accident he took his son to the police station, and gave every facility for the affair to be properly inquired into.

Learning that the dead boy was the main support of his father, MR. JUSTICE DARLING said the defendant might be liable for compensation, but that was a question which could only be decided in a civil court.

NEWS

Commons votes to ban fox-hunting

■ The decades-long campaign to abolish blood sports reached its most important landmark with the first Commons vote in favour of a ban on fox-hunting.

m A Labour backbencher's Bill that would also outlaw stag-hunting and hare-coursing was carried without opposition as the supporters of hunting accepted that defeat was inevitable and deliberately boycotted the vote..... **Pages 1, 10, 16**

SFO starts Barings inquiry

■ The Serious Fraud Office launched an investigation into allegations of fraud at Barings as Nicholas Leeson, the trader blamed for the bank's collapse, indicated that he would prefer to face trial in Britain rather than Singapore..... **Page 1**

Dean to face court

The Dean of Lincoln, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson, is to be accused in a church court of having an "improper" sexual relationship with a woman member of the cathedral congregation..... **Page 1**

Fayed legal threat

Mohamed Al Fayed, the Egyptian-born chairman of Harrods, and his brother Ali are threatening legal action against the Home Secretary after their applications for British citizenship were turned down..... **Page 2**

Actor acquitted

The actor Craig Charles attacked the case against him and called for anonymity for rape defendants after being cleared of orchestrating a gang rape..... **Page 3**

Shire challenge

The Government was threatened with legal action if it tries to bring in new guidelines for the fresh review of much of shire England announced this week..... **Page 6**

Guy's reprieve

Guy's Hospital is likely to be reprieved after a report recommended delaying closure of its casualty unit until at least 1999..... **Page 7**

Claes fights odds

When Willy Claes, the Nato Secertary-General, began his trip to Canada he left behind an alliance headquarters full of people laying bets on how long he can keep his job..... **Page 11**

US warned

Israel's Deputy Foreign Minister told the US that it could pay "a terrible price" if it did not spend money to help countries involved in the peace process..... **Page 13**

Fatal parting shots

American Marines killed several Somalis and wounded dozens more in volleys of cannon and rifle fire as they left Mogadishu at the end of the United Nations' failed mission to restore order in the anarchic country..... **Page 15**

Let him eat porridge

■ Dickensian England is often condemned as a society in which a child could go to prison for stealing a handkerchief but in California a man has been jailed for life for taking a slice of pizza from a child who refused to share it with him..... **Page 1**

BARRY GREENWOOD



Skis replaced hiking boots on the Pennine Way yesterday as snow covered much of the country. Report, page 1

OPINION

Valley of debt: For a securities business to allow itself to be destroyed by a "rogue" trader is like a zoo not bothering to lock its cages and blaming a "rogue" tiger for the carnage..... **Page 17**

Yeltsin and mafia murder: Crime has been tolerated too long in Russia because too many people in Mr Yeltsin's own administration have profited..... **Page 17**

Slice of life: Public opinion cannot be ignored by the courts but sentencing should be a matter for individual judgment, not blanket procedures..... **Page 17**

LETTERS

Vital issues for Bank of England in "saving a bank"; the Hundred Years War; upgraded on aircraft..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

Basil Hume: We cannot delegate our own moral responsibility as citizens to those in authority. If we expect them to act, we must say so**Page 16**

Simon Jenkins: From what I can see, Priam's Treasure belongs to the Turks, from whom Schliemann boasted he stole it. The Turkish Government has already asked for it back..... **Page 16**

THE PAPERS

With the arrest of the brother of the former president, the profound split in Mexico's government party becomes more open to outsiders' view

— The Washington Post

Singapore doesn't want to be remembered as a place where healthy, respected 233-year-old banks drop dead

— The Wall Street Journal

BUSINESS

Power struggle: The City body that regulates takeovers ordered an urgent inquiry on the use of financial derivatives such as swaps in bid battles..... **Page 21**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 13.1 points to close at 3025.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 87.1 to 87.9 after a rise from $1.5895 to $1.6250, and to DM2.3294..... **Page 24**

MONEY GUIDE

A 16-page investment and unit trust review

OBITUARIES

Brigadier Arthur Hardy, ex-commandant of Royal Artillery air defence school; Karl Gruber, Austrian Foreign Minister 1945-53..... **Page 19**

SPORT

Rugby union: Scotland are favoured to beat Wales at Murrayfield but the outcome is less clear-cut between Ireland and France in Dublin as the Five Nations Championship moves into its penultimate round..... **Page 39**

Football: Chris Armstrong, the Crystal Palace forward, is believed to have tested positive for cannabis..... **Page 40**

Racing: Mark Dwyer, winner of the Champion Hurdle with Flakey Dove at Cheltenham last year, will ride Fortune And Fame in this year's race..... **Page 35**

CAR 95

Rover's return: the MG will roar back next week when the covers come off the car Britain has waited 15 years to see

SATURDAY TIMES

MAGAZINE



Talk queen: Ginny Dougary meets Oprah Winfrey, who is one of the richest women in America..... **Page 6**

Dying to choose: We are urged to take responsibility for our life, but not responsibility for our death, Gillian Tindall reports..... **Page 16**

Pretty retro: Skimpy spring dresses sport Fifties patterns, writes Iain R. Webb..**Page 22**

Promoting food: Do you believe the health angle of a food advertisement or just go for the look?... **Page 26**

Turkish delight: Frances Bissell goes to Turkey; Jonathan Meades says surroundings cannot make up for poor food; and Jane MacQuitty looks at the old and new ways with wine..... **Page 35**

WEEKEND



Dear Jane Owen: Your dentist has aids..... **Page 1**

Arts: Channel 4's cannabis night; Joe Orton's *What the Butler Saw*; Chinese rock films at the ICA; Annie Lennox's new album... **Pages 5-7**

Garden glamour: Exotic ideas for balconies**Page 8**

Sell it again: Film posters come off the wall and into the saleroom..... **Page 10**

Country matters: Paul Heiney with Farmer's Diary; Derwent May's Feather Report..... **Page 11**

Splashing out: On waterside homes **Page 13**

Travel: Mexico, Sri Lanka, the Arctic Circle, and upmarket B&B breaks..... **Pages 16-19**

VISION



Secret lives: does Mountbatten deserve a place in the halls of histrionics rather than history?..... **Page 3**

She's out: Lynda La Plante's *Widows* are back..... **Page 5**

Teen TV: adolescent angst and *Party of Five*..... **Page 6**

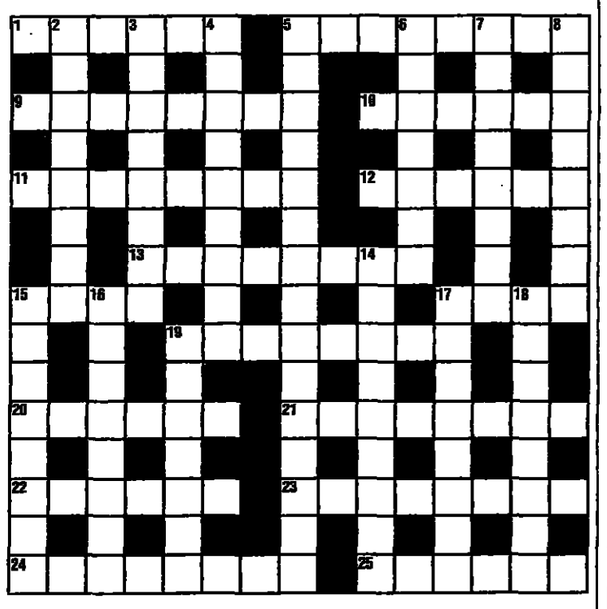
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,794

KNOCKANDO

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address

.....



ACROSS

1 Extra daylight originally saved (6).
5 Sweet fruit to fall (4-4).
9 Fiery particles from black diamonds (8).
10 Device used with mousetrap, say, sounds more impressive (6).
11 Merry prankster held in vile prison abroad (8).
12 Pass by England's first slip? (6).
13 Wary lout disconcerted by removal of legal protection (8).
15 Note fleet aquatic bird (4).
17 Really knowledgeable about some mountain-tops (4).
19 At university, master turns out to be closer to the head (8).
20 Large sum of money spent in a passenger-ship at one time (6).
21 One is missing from restored mannerist pieces that survive (8).
22 Soda's mixed with last of the port (6).
23 Bulbous stove making tea? Swell (3-5).
24 Itinerant is without anchor (8).
25 Jazz-fan down for a short rest (6).

DOWN

2 Toxic compound found in a pimento that is going off (8).
3 Story of royal high spirits (8).
4 The highest score on board? (6-3).
5 Hominid from China? The support is wavering (15).
6 Rugby reunion in a country manor, we hear (7).
7 Drumbeat of a pitch raised by design (8).
8 Cigar that makes a superb ring (8).
14 Creaky space over loft reported (9).
15 Mouth-opening that might let an actor down (8).
16 Holder of Mexican stock? (8).
17 One male with long hair, not cut in the middle, is dwelling within (8).
18 Maize pancake instruction given 'ere, we are told (8).
19 Implement 10, for example (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,788

R	E	M	E	D	I	A	L	■	M	■	F	■	D	■
■	X	■	A	■	N	■	O	N	A	P	L	A	T	E
S	C	A	T	■	S	■	A	■	Y	■	■	R	■	A
■	U	■	O	U	T	O	F	T	H	E	W	O	O	D
■	S	■	N	■	A	■	I	■	E	■	■	E	■	H
S	E	V	E	R	N	■	N	A	M	E	S	A	K	E
■	M	■	S	■	G	■	■	T	■	■	■	A	■	■
S	E	A	W	E	E	D	■	A	B	R	E	A	S	T
K	■	O	■	A	■	A	R	■	N	■	■	■	■	■
I	N	F	R	A	R	E	D	■	S	E	N	I	O	R
N	■	D	■	A	■	A	■	I	■	I	■	W	■	■
G	O	O	S	E	P	I	M	P	L	E	S	■	B	■
A	■	N	■	T	■	A	■	I	■	L	O	A	N	■
M	A	C	A	R	O	O	N	■	S	■	E	■	L	■
E	■	E	■	R	■	T	A	K	E	S	■	I	L	K

Solution to Puzzle No 19,793

H	O	R	S	D	E	C	O	M	B	A	T	■	■	■
U	■	A	■	O	■	H	■	A	■	B	■	C	■	T
S	O	V	E	R	E	I	G	N	■	B	O	O	T	H
B	E	■	M	■	P	■	O	■	N	■	I	■	■	■
A	U	N	T	I	E	■	P	A	S	T	I	C	H	E
N	■	T	■	L	■	■	■	E	■	V	■	■	■	■
D	A	M	S	O	N	■	C	A	U	S	E	R	I	E
■	■	O	■	R	■	L	■	Y	■	T	■	■	■	■
L	U	C	K	Y	J	I	M	■	T	A	R	I	F	F
I	■	C	■	■	■	N	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	R
B	R	A	S	S	I	C	A	■	Q	U	I	C	H	E
I	S	■	W	■	H	■	A	■	S	■	H	■	C	■
D	R	I	V	E	■	P	I	P	S	Q	U	E	A	K
O	■	N	■	L	I	S	U	E	■	L	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	G	L	Y	N	D	E	B	O	U	R	N	E

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *A Brown, Alcester, Warks; D Sanders, Deal, Kent; H E Dugud, Chandlers Ford, Hants; A Roberts, Romsey, Hants; J N Butterworth, Bradford, Yorks.*

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Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Flts/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
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National traffic and roadworks	
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East Anglia	741
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North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 6.41 am — Sun sets: 5.45 pm

Moon sets 9.33 pm — Moon rises 7.33 am

First quarter March 9

London 5.45 pm to 6.38 am
Bristol 5.55 pm to 6.48 am
Edinburgh 5.52 pm to 6.56 am
Manchester 5.52 pm to 6.49 am
Penzance 6.08 pm to 6.59 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6.38 am — Sun sets: 5.47 pm

Moon sets 10.38 pm — Moon rises 7.58 am

First quarter March 9

London 5.47 pm to 6.38 am
Bristol 5.57 pm to 6.46 am
Edinburgh 5.55 pm to 6.53 am
Manchester 5.53 pm to 6.46 am
Penzance 6.10 pm to 6.56 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.18	7.36	3:43	7.39
Aberdeen	2:54	4.20	3:00	4.39
Avonmouth	8.58	13.91	9:13	13.63
Belfast	0:35	3.42	0:50	3.61
Cardiff	8:50	12.62	9:04	12.13
Devonport	7:31	5.51	7:45	5.32
Dover	0:26	6.80	0:47	6.51
Dublin	1:06	3.99	1:17	4.23
Falmouth	7:02	5.28	7:19	4.97
Glasgow	2:13	4.78	2:36	4.79
Harwich	1:20	4.05	1:44	3.95
Holyhead	11:58	5.69	–	–
Hull	7:57	7.42	8:05	7.82
Ilfracombe	7:45	9.38	7:55	9.15
King's Lynn	7:56	6.66	8:12	6.76
Leith	4:13	5.43	4:27	5.54
Liverpool	0:42	9.27	0:57	9.52
Lowestoft	11:18	2.28	11:10	2.51
Margate	1:36	4.85	2:01	4.72
Milford Haven	7:55	7.10	8:10	6.85
Newquay	8.42	6.89	8:59	6.72
Oban	7:18	4.07	7:24	3.88
Penzance	6.17	5.57	6.34	5.35
Portland	8:27	2.20	8:46	1.98
Portsmouth	0:53	4.83	1:06	4.72
Shoreham	0:55	6.45	1:11	6.31
Southampton	0:12	4.64	0:25	4.60
Swansea	8:08	9.77	8:20	9.45
Tees	5:20	5.27	5:30	5.42
Wilton-on-Nze	1:13	4.23	1:39	4.11

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Herstmonceux, East Sussex, 10C (50F); lowest day max: Tulloch Bridge, Highland, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Penzance, Cornwall, 0.83in; highest sunshine: Leuchars, Fife, 8.8hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a cold, frosty start, but most of the day will be dry and sunny, especially in the east. Cloud will thicken later from the west with rain edging in, reaching Wales and western England in the late afternoon.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will soon become cloudy, with snow by early afternoon. Snow will spread eastwards, turning to rain or sleet at lower levels. Clearer, showery weather will reach western regions later.

It will be windy and rather cold.

☐ **London, S E England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, Central N England:** dry and sunny at first, cloudier later with rain by late evening. Wind W light becoming southerly, moderate to fresh. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **W Midlands, Channel Isles, S W England, S Wales, N Wales, N W England:** rain, starting as sleet, spreading from west. Snow persisting on higher ground. Winds W light, SW fresh to strong. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Lake District, Isle of Man, S W Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N W Scotland, N Ireland:** sleet or snow mostly turning to rain, becoming showery later. Winds W, later SW, strong, locally gale. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **N E England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, N E Scotland:** sunny spells, rain later. Wind W moderate, becoming SW strong. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** showers dying out, dry for a time, sleet turning to rain later. Wind light, variable, becoming S to SE, strong to gale. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain will clear eastern regions. Blustery, wintry showers will spread from the west.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.4	-	6	43	s
Anglesey	3.0	0.01	5	41	h
Aspatria	4.8	0.28	5	41	h
Aviemore	1.5	-	1	34	c
Belfast	4.6	0.03	3	37	d
Birmingham	6.2	0.01	7	45	b
Bognor R	6.0	0.09	8	46	r
Boumem'th	4.0	0.33	11	52	r
Bristol	X	X	6	43	r
Buxton	6.0	0.09	3	37	s
Cardiff	3.0	0.17	5	41	h
Clacton	6.3	-	7	45	s
Cleethorpes	X				
Colwyn Bay	X				
Cromer	8.6	-	7	45	s
Doncaster	6.3	0.04	7	45	b
Dunbar	X				
Eastbourne	5.3	0.25	8	46	r
Edinburgh	6.7	0.01	4	39	sn
Eskdalemuir	5.9	0.20	2	36	sh
Exmouth	2.6	0.65	6	43	sn
Falmouth	X	0.54	7	45	r
Fishguard	3.2	0.48	5	41	sn
Folkestone	7.2	0.04	9	48	s
Glasgow	3.8	0.19	4	39	sn
Guernsey	3.2	0.48	10	50	r
Hastings	6.8	0.02	8	46	b
Hayling I.	5.5	0.16	5	41	r
Herne Bay	7.2	0.04	8	46	s
Hove	5.0	0.02	7	45	r
Hunstanton	7.5	0.01	6	43	s
Jersey	1.1	0.75	8	46	h
Kinloss	5.9	-	5	41	s
Leeds	5.8	0.07	6	43	sn
Lerwick	3.0	0.03	3	37	sn
Leuchars	8.8	-	5	41	s

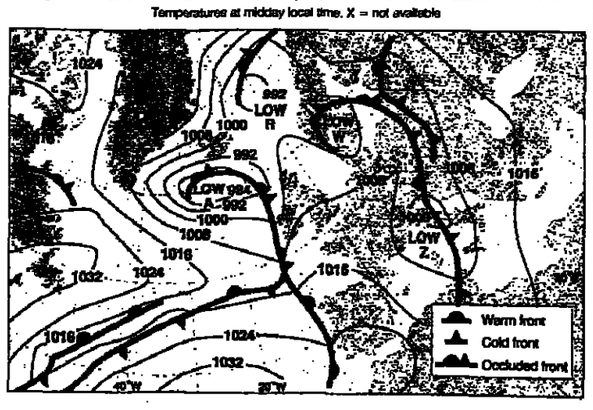
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Littlehmptn	5.9	0.13	8	46	r
Liverpool	5.2	0.18	6	43	s
London	6.2	0.01	8	46	s
Lowestoft	8.0	0.02	7	45	s
Manchester	5.3		6	43	h
Margate	7.2	0.08	9	48	s
Minehead	3.5	0.31	8	43	h
Morecambe	3.8	0.24	5	41	sn
Newcastle	6.8	0.07	6	41	s
Norwich	8.0	-	7	45	s
Oxford	5.9	0.04	7	45	s
Penzance	2.0	0.93	7	45	r
Plymouth	2.7	0.54	7	45	sh
Poole	4.0	0.36	8	46	s
Prestatyn	X	0.07	7	45	c
Ross-o-wye	5.0	0.03	8	43	sh
Salcombe	1.8	0.44	10	50	sh
Sandown	4.5	0.07	8	46	s
Saunton Snd	1.3	0.11	5	41	sh
Scarboro'	5.2	0.07	6	41	b
Scilly Isles	1.7	0.54	8	46	r
Shanklin	5.2	0.20	7	45	s
Shrewsbury	5.3	0.03	6	43	sn
Skegness	8.2	-	6	43	s
Southend	7.5	0.02	9	48	s
Southport	4.6	0.24	5	41	r
Southsea	5.8	0.13	8	46	r
Stornoway	3.8	0.04	4	39	r
Swanage	4.3	0.24	8	46	r
Teignmouth	2.8	0.62	7	45	sl
Tenby	0.1	0.19	6	43	r
Tiree	3.0	0.18	2	36	sh
Torquay	2.7	0.54	7	45	r
Tynemouth	6.8	0.06	5	41	b
Ventnor	4.6	0.13	7	45	r
Weymouth	4.2	0.40	7	45	sl

ABROAD

Ajaccio	12	54	r	Corfu	13	55	f	Majorca	17	63	s
Alicante	21	70	s	Dublin	3	37	c	Malaga	18	64	f
Alex'dria	23	73	s	Dubrovnik	10	50	c	Malta	15	59	f
Algiers	18	64	s	Faro	16	61	c	Melb'rne	23	73	s
Amst'dm	5	41	c	Florence	14	57	s	Mexico C	17	63	f
Athens	19	66	f	Frankfurt	8	46	f	Miami	23	73	f
Bahrain	22	72	s	Funchal	18	61	c	Milan	11	52	f
Bangkok	35	95	s	Geneva	6	43	r	Montreal	-7	19	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	17	63	f	Moscow	-7	19	c
Barcelona	18	64	f	Helsinki	1	34	sl	Munich	11	52	s
Beirut	22	72	s	Hong K	23	73	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Belgrade	8	46	r	Innsbruck	9	48	f	Naples	12	54	d
Berlin	6	43	s	Istanbul	17	63	f	N Delhi	20	68	s
Bermuda	23	73	s	Jeddah	27	81	s	N York	3	37	s
Biarritz	6	43	r	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Nice	12	54	f
Borde'x	8	46	c	Karachi	27	81	f	Oslo	0	32	c
Brussels	6	43	s	L Palmas	20	68	f	Paris	6	43	f
Budapst	7	45	r	Le Tquet	6	43	f	Peking	7	45	s
Cairo	27	81	s	Lisbon	13	55	r	Perth	29	84	c
Cape Tn	-	-		Locarno	-1	30	s	Prague	12	54	c
Chicago	-4	25	s	L Angels	14	57	r	Reykjavik	-6	21	s
Ch'church	14	57	c	Luxembg	6	43	f	Rhodes	20	68	f
Cologne	8	46	s	Luxor	28	82	s	Rio de J	29	84	f
C'phagn	2	36	sl	Madrid	10	50	r	Riyadh	21	70	s

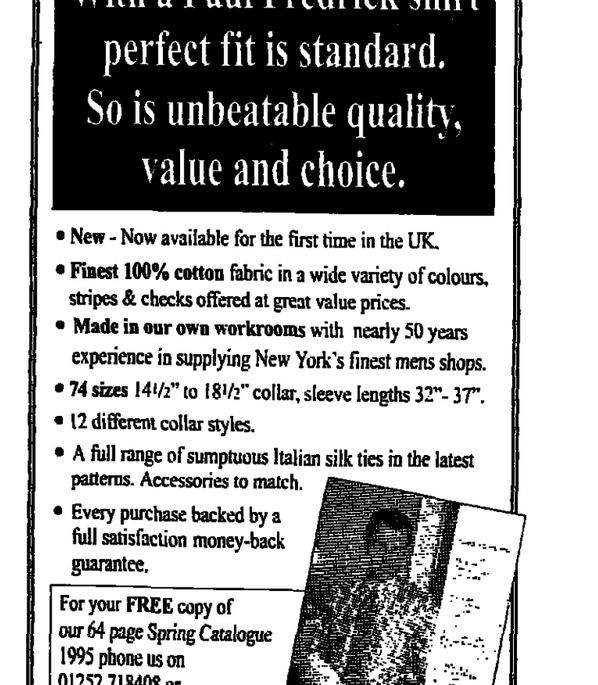
Rome	14	57	f	Salzburg	13	55	s	Stockholm	3	37	c
S F'risco	12	54	r	Santiago	29	84	s	Strasb'rg	-1	30	c
S Paulo	32	90	f	Seoul	5	41	f	Sydney	23	73	f
Sing'por	28	79	c	Tangier	17	63	c	Tel Aviv	24	75	s
Tenerife	18	64	c	Tokyo	9	48	f	Toronto	-6	21	s
Tunis	17	63	f	Valencia	16	61	s	Vancver	6	43	s
Venice	12	54	s	Vienna	7	45	f	Warsaw	8	46	s
Wash'ton	5	41	f	Wel'ngton	16	61	c	Zurich	4	39	r

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart from noon: low A will move east and fill while low R stays static; low W will fill as it drifts east; low Z will gradually become indistinct

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MELVYN MARCKUS 22

Our City Editor reports on the Barings fiasco



ANALYSIS

The flyweight bank that punched above its weight



SPORT 34-40

Pierre Berbizier: Thriving on shifting sands

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — SATURDAY MARCH 4 1995

Banks step in as dollar plunges to record low

BY COLIN NARBROUGH AND GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

CONCERTED waves of intervention by central banks around the world failed to prevent the US currency from falling to a record low against the yen amid fears that corporate Japan is about to sell off billions of dollars.

The latest bout of dollar weakness, which broke out on Thursday, prompted a flight to the safe haven of the hard Japanese, German and Swiss currencies that the central banks were unable to stem. Even the pound, recently weakened by political uncertainty, drew strength from the dollar's decline.

US government bonds, which had gained ground recently, dropped a full point as the dollar support action continued.

The hedge funds responded to intervention by unloading dollars, helping the currency slide to a new post-war low of close to 94 yen, and pushing it below DM1.44.

The dollar's status has been unsettled by the Mexico debacle and a flurry of other market shocks. But currency analysts said the markets were becoming fundamentally alarmed about the dollar dropping close to 90 yen, a level that would oblige Japanese companies to repatriate yen on a grand scale to meet domestic requirements on foreign exchange losses.

Robert Rubin, the US Treasury Secretary, said last night that a strong dollar was in America's national interest and that the Clinton Administration was working to reinforce it.

His statement, intended to underpin the dollar, came after the US Federal Reserve intervened aggressively in the market to no avail, buying dollars at around Y94.37 and DM1.4385.

After seven interest rate increases since February last year, the Fed is widely seen as reluctant to tighten further for fear of causing the US economy to falter.

In spite of Mr Rubin's remarks, the market perception is that the US authorities have lately been signalling a return to a policy of benign neglect concerning the exchange rate.

New York dealers said that the central bank activity, which started overnight and continued all day, appeared more aimed at managing decline than forcing the dollar back up.

Estimates of the overall size of the intervention suggested that only about $1 billion had been deployed in defence of the dollar by the European market close.

In London, the dollar closed at Y94.35, down from Thursday's Y96.22, and DM1.4368 after DM1.4600. Sterling climbed alomost a pfennig to finish at DM2.3291 and gained more than three cents to $1.6205.

In Tokyo, Japanese government leaders vowed to take concerted action to fight the record surge of the yen against the dollar.

Tomiichi Murayama, the Prime Minister, suggested after an emergency meeting with senior cabinet ministers and finance, trade and central bank officials that Tokyo should lead co-ordinated intervention by the central banks of the Group of Seven nations.

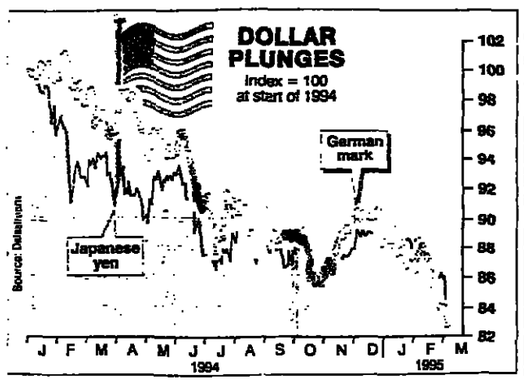
Masayoshi Takemura, the Finance Minister, said yesterday after the yen briefly knocked the dollar to a post-war low, that the Bank of Japan and the Fed would respond "appropriately" to the currency movements. "I am seriously worried about the yen's appreciation ... I am sure Japan, the United States and Europe will co-operate in their responses."

Koichi Takenaka, vice president of the Industrial Bank of Japan in New York, predicted there will be more and more buying of yen by Japanese firms as the month proceeds.

After American and Japanese intervention overnight, 15 European banks and the Bank Canada joined in the intervention yesterday morning, and followed up with two more waves of intervention during the day.



A foreign exchange dealer reacts to the dollar's plight in hectic trading in Tokyo



☐ The US Government's chief economic forecasting gauge was unchanged in January, suggesting the economy will continue to level off as the year progresses.

The Commerce Department said yesterday that its index of leading economic indicators remained flat after rising for two months. Separate factor orders data showed a 0.6 per cent increase in January, the weakest figure for three months.

Inquiry into use of swaps in bids

BY GEORGE SIVELL

THE City body that regulates British takeovers ordered an urgent inquiry last night into the use of financial derivatives such as options and swaps in bid battles.

The move follows the hostile Trafalgar House bid for Northern Electric, the regional electricity company, which has been raging since before Christmas, and the collapse earlier this week of Barings, the merchant bank.

The Takeover Panel has been forced into holding an inquiry after an appeal by Northern against the ruling that Trafalgar's moves had been in keeping with the City Code on Takeovers.

But that finding may be explained by the panel's rules, which make reference mainly to the ordinary share capital of companies, and not to any derivatives of it. This further demonstrates the hidden power of the derivatives market which floored Barings.

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, is known also to have had reservations about the use of derivatives in hostile bids and is believed to have encouraged the Takeover Panel to take a fresh look at its rules. The Stock Exchange is also looking at its rules on derivatives.

Northern has a week to save itself from the £1.1 billion Trafalgar bid. If it loses its independence any subsequent changes in the rules will be resented by its directors.

Swiss Bank Corporation, the merchant bank adviser to Trafalgar, built up a 3 per cent stake in Northern and an 8 per cent stake in Yorkshire in the early stages of the bid.

The bank later revealed that it was hedging the Northern stake with the Yorkshire stake and using profits arising from the derivative trade to reduce Trafalgar's bid costs.

☐ According to Northern's defence document, the five most senior directors at Northern will share £3.5 million if the Trafalgar bid succeeds.

WEEKEND MONEY



26 Anne Ashworth

INVESTMENT

25 Guaranteed investments: the secret ingredient



NATIONAL SAVINGS



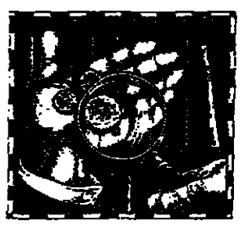
27 A National Savings institution

PENSIONS

28 Wives' state pensions under threat



TIMES MONEY GUIDE



A 16-page review of investment and unit trusts

BUSINESS TODAY

FT-SE 100	3025.1	(–13.1)
Yield	4.40%	
FT-SE A All share	1493.40	(–5.17)
Nikkei	17039.82	(+78.44)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3982.00	(+2.07)*
S&P Composite	484.64	(–0.49)*
Federal Funds	5 15/16%*	(5 15/16%)
Long Bond	100 28/32*	(101 16/32)
Yield	7.56%*	(7.49%)
3-mth Interbank	6 5/16%	(6 1/4%)
Lilfe long gilt future (Mar)	101 31/32	(102 1/16)
New York: $	1.6223*	(1.6131)
London: $	1.6205	(1.5911)
DM	2.3272	(2.3169)
FFr	8.1960	(8.1640)
SFr	1.9698	(1.9687)
Yen	152.82	(152.25)
£ Index	87.9	(87.1)
London: DM	1.4349*	(1.4431)
FFr	5.0543*	(5.0800)
SFr	1.2145*	(1.2230)
Yen	94.35*	(95.23)
$ Index	92.4	(93.8)

Tokyo close Yen 95.45

Brent 15-day (May)	$16.65	($16.55)
London close	$377.05	($375.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Credit slows

Consumers reined back their use of credit sharply in January after splashing out with record borrowing in December, but were still resorting to credit more than last year. Page 22

Lloyds chief's pay increases by 28%

BY MARTIN BARROW

SIR BRIAN PITMAN, chief executive of Lloyds Bank, was paid £571,383 last year, 28 per cent more than in 1993.

His basic pay rose to £421,383 from £321,513 and he received a further £150,000 in respect of the company's staff profit sharing scheme and a profit-related payment.

Sir Robin Ibbs, chairman, said: "There was clear evidence that Sir Brian's pay was below the market rate for a top chief executive of a very large, successful business." He cited the bank's performance during difficult times. "People throughout the bank have contributed to these results but his leadership has been a crucial factor."

Sir Robin, a non-executive chairman, was paid £293,934 last year.

Sir Brian's pay rise drew criticism from the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union, which claims Lloyds' current pay offer is worth only 2 per cent on salary scales.

The rise was approved by a remuneration committee whose members include Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman of Marks & Spencer. Sir Richard heads a committee set up by the CBI to consider issues related to executive pay.



Sir Brian: leadership

Public to be offered more power shares

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE initial public offer of shares in National Power and PowerGen, the two quoted power generators, could have been filled twice, the Treasury said, and so the amount on offer to the public is being raised by up to 50 per cent.

More than one million people have applied for shares. Average individual investment was just below £3,000, against a £1,000 minimum set by the Government and its advisers.

It was intended to sell 40 per cent of the £4 billion issue direct to retail investors via a countrywide chain of share shops. But the overwhelming public demand, with applications worth £3 billion chasing shares worth £1.5 billion, has meant as much as 60 per cent may now go to the public.

Nearly all this will be through the UK Public Offer, targeted at the smaller investor and offering a 10p discount off the price the City institutions will pay, but as much as 5 per cent of the issue may now go to the retail tender offer, aimed at private investors who want a larger holding.

With the two companies already pledged to buy in 20 per cent of the shares on offer, this leaves a comparatively light 20 per cent to the institutions and virtually ensures that once dealings in the new shares start on Monday there will be a reasonable level of demand in the after-market.

The Treasury said the number of shares for the public would be decided over the weekend, but it was intended to have the UK public offer at least 1.5 times' subscribed.

Tomorrow the issue will be priced according to bids for the shares from institutions and that price announced. This will determine the cost of the public's third instalment, payable in September 1996.

Scene is set for the return of Gyngell

BY RACHEL BRIDGE AND MARTIN WALLER

THE Australian who painted the walls pink at TV-am and then staged a financial rescue for the then-ailing breakfast TV station, is thought to be packing his bags in his home country in readiness for a return to the British TV scene.

Bruce Gyngell, former chairman of TV-am, is favourite to become head of Yorkshire-Tyne Tees Television after his resignation from executive duties at Nine Network, Kerry Packer's Australian televison station.

The man known as Australia's Mr Television is stepping down as executive chairman of Packer's Nine Network Television Division "for family reasons". His English wife Kathy is thought to want to return to the UK.

But a power struggle with the chief executive of Nine Network, David Leckie, a man frequently described by observers as "outspoken" and "forceful", may also have played its part.

Mr Gyngell returned to Australia to head up Nine Network just two years ago, after Mr Packer regained control of the station from Alan Bond, the failed Australian businessman. But his links with the network date back to 1956, when he became the first face Australians saw on the screen. He opened the first television broadcast in Australia from a church hall in a Sydney suburb with the portentous words: "This is television."

A media analyst in Sydney said: "The Australian television industry is just not a big enough market. He's probably looking for another challenge."

That challenge is rumoured to be Yorkshire TV, where financial difficulties forced Clive Leach to step down as chief executive in 1993. Mr Gyngell, who brought a new style of management to TV-am, is known to have discussed the job with Ward Thomas, the septuagenarian former RAF pilot and a founder of Yorkshire TV, who was brought in as chairman to rescue the business.

Mr Thomas was in New York last night and could not be contacted. The company was not commenting on Mr Gyngell. However, one insider said: "He has to be a very serious contender, and obviously that's all I can say."

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Over Baring, under managed

As you may have heard, Barings, which had made quite a reputation for itself over 233 years, has disappeared up its own derivative. Amazing. What can one say? Where does one start? Let us start with Peter Baring, chairman of the bank. This, after all, is where the buck, or rather the yen, stops.

On Monday, shortly after Ernst & Young had been appointed administrators, Mr Baring unburdened himself to the Pink 'un. Barings's chief clearly took the view that his bank had proved the victim of a conspiracy. Asked what Nick Leeson, Barings derivative conjuror, had in mind when he purchased $7 billion of futures positions on the Nikkei index, Mr Baring suggested that the bank may have been put at risk deliberately. In his words: "We simply cannot yet know exactly what happened. It is difficult to get a fix on the motivation of this fellow. But we share the view that the creation of a substantial hidden long position was the aim of the operation, by someone who no doubt is out there with a substantial short."

Mr Baring added: "Let us suppose that the putative associate approached our trader and said 'you should build up a long position at Barings so great that when Barings discover it they cannot possibly sustain it and remain solvent. I, meanwhile, will build up a short position and when Barings duly fails, I will have a wonderful opportunity to cover my short at a profit'." This, according to Mr Baring, was a "credible" account of events.

Credible, but not necessarily accurate. One of the reasons why the Bank of England and all the King's men couldn't put Barings together last weekend was the discovery, after much shuffling of paper in Singapore, that Mr Leeson's huge long position was not matched by a corresponding short. If the Bank of England had been able to identify even a cabal of counter parties holding major short positions, Barings might have been saved. Attempts would have been made to persuade such parties — at a price — to close out their positions. This, in turn, would have served to quantify much of Barings' liabilities. In the event, the number of counterparties to Leeson's longs proved so numerous that the Bank abandoned the unravelling option.

This left Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, to search for a way to cap Barings's liabilities. Losses were estimated at more than £600 million and each one percentage point drop in the Nikkei index increased the bank's exposure by a further $70 million. Difficult, of course, for the chairman of a clearer, let alone a merchant bank, to stand up at an annual meeting and explain why he had felt it was in the best interests of shareholders to toss the bank's reserves into a bottomless pit.

Wanted: person with unlimited funds willing to jump into black hole. There was, by all accounts, only one reply to this small ad.



MELVYN MARCKUS

Enter the Sultan of Brunei, an associate of the Royal Family and a former client of Barings asset management arm. The Sultan's wealth, derived from oil revenues, is estimated at about $37 billion. Despite denials, speculation persisted during the Eighties that the Sultan's funds were linked to Mohamed Fayed's acquisiton of House of Fraser. As it happened, the Sultan of Brunei, via the Brunei Investment Authority, came close to buying a 50 per cent stake in Barings.

The Brunei Investment Authority (BIA), plus seven UK clearers and seven UK merchant banks, were tentatively prepared to put up £600 million worth of capital to enable Barings to continue trading. Short-term liquidity would have been provided by the Bank of England.

The BIA and the consortium would each have provided £300 million of loan capital, which would have been replaced by permanent capital within three months. According to a draft statement, the BIA "acting in conjunction with two major international institutions" was set to seal off Barings's black hole by purchasing Leeson's futures and options contracts. But, at approximately 8.30 on Sunday evening, the Sultan changed his mind. The Bank's rescue attempt promptly foundered.

What Mr Baring did not make much of when he revealed his conspiracy theory was that Barings's senior executives were warned of "a significant general risk" in relation to Leeson's operations way back in August. Unsurprisingly, the audit is understood to have highlighted the potential problems of permitting Leeson control over trading and settlement operations.

It would appear that Leeson's "exceptional" profits prompted the audit. During the first seven months of last year, Leeson's unit achieved profits of some $30 million, compared with group pretax profits of £54.8 million during the first half. This week, Mr Baring was unable to throw any light on why Leeson's activities had not been detected. Permit me to make a suggestion: might not appalling management have had something to do with this.

Enter the Serious Fraud Office yesterday, just in case lax management should prove but the tip of the iceberg.

Meanwhile, Wall Street's investment houses are, unsurprisingly, intent on cashing in. Yesterday's *Wall Street Journal* gives the flavour of the mood. I quote: "The collapse of venerable Barings and its possible takeover by Dutch bank Internationale Nederlanden Group underscores a great irony: while the City — London's financial district — has defied predictions and solidified its position as Europe's leading financial center, British investment firms are becoming second-tier players on their home turf.

"Baring's decline may have been more spectacular than most but it joins a long list of British financial institutions that have lost their independence in recent years. Morgan Grenfell, Hoare Govett and Phillips & Drew are just a few other well-known institutions that have been acquired by foreign banks."

And just to make you feel good, it adds: "In some ways, the decline of independent British investment banking isn't that unusual. The UK auto, steel and shipbuilding industries were once world leaders...."

Consumers pause for breath after Christmas spree

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

CONSUMERS reined back their use of credit sharply in January after splashing out with record borrowing in December, but were still resorting to credit more readily than at the same time last year.

Bank of England figures, published yesterday, showed net consumer credit rose £492 million, after adjustment for seasonal factors, in January, as retail sales dropped.

Although far below the increases of £694 million and £862 million respectively in November and December, credit growth in January was well up on the £281 million rise on the same month last year.

The strength of recent borrowing, despite the post-Christmas slowdown in January, is seen by economists as evidence that consumers are prepared to use credit to maintain consumption in the absence of income growth.

Adam Cole, UK economist at James Capel, the broker, said the strong rebound he expects in February's retail sales will deliver a similar bounce-back in consumer credit. He added the underlying trend in borrowing, excluding housing credit, is still "firmly upwards".

The flat housing market has left mortgage borrowing weak, but there otherwise appears to be no signs of any fundamental retrenchment, despite consumer concern about increased taxes and rising interest rates.

The strength of the year-on-year growth in consumer credit is expected to figure large at the next monetary policy meeting of Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, next Wednesday, when they consider the need for further tightening. The annual rate of increase in consumer credit accelerated to 11.4 per cent in January from 11 per cent in December.

Lending on credit cards rose by £115 million in January, compared with a £302 million rise in December. Other loans from retailers, banks, building societies, insurance companies and specialist lenders were up £378 million, after a £560 million rise in December.

While the consumer does not appear to be overly subdued by three interest rate rises, concern about interest rates and rising inflation has dented business confidence, according to the latest S G Warburg survey, conducted by MORI among 1,000 chairmen and senior executives of substantial listed companies.

The survey shows that a balance of 33 per cent of companies are now more optimistic about growth prospects than they were three months ago, well below the 57 per cent reported last September.



Russell Black (mirrored), chief executive, and Peter Johnson, chairman, of Nightfreight, whose profits rose £2.02 million to £4.5 million last year. A 2.25p final dividend makes a 3.38p total.

Gloomy outlook depresses Dawson

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

SHARES in Dawson International sank to a low yesterday as the textiles group said that current-year profits would fall below City expectations. The shares, 235p two years ago, ended 12½p lower at 96½p.

In a bleak trading statement, the group said its performance had been adversely affected by difficult market conditions and the exceptionally mild winter. Analysts promptly downgraded their annual pre-tax profit forecasts by about £5 million to £25 million.

Dawson also gave warning that the bottom line could be hit by significant exceptional provisions after a review of its underperforming businesses. A spokesman refused to be drawn on the scale of any provisions but they could be as high as £20 million.

Yesterday's statement was Dawson's second profits warning in little more than a year. Some analysts suggested that it may force management changes. One said: "The patience of institutional shareholders must be running out."

Dawson has already been forced to make some boardroom changes. Last year, Philip Kemp, who built up the US operations, resigned and Nick Kuenssberg was promoted to managing director.

The decision followed the closure of the loss-making US fleece and jersey business that plunged the group £95.4 million into the red and precipitated a £45 million rights issue to shore up its battered balance sheet.

Further closures of some of its remaining businesses may now be on the cards after a study by Gemini Consulting, the management consultant.

Dawson refused to be drawn on which businesses were threatened, but analysts believe that the carpet operation, the US shower curtain business and some parts of the United Brands knitwear division could be casualties.

Tempus, page 24

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

MFI warning leaves share price weaker

SHARES in MFI, Britain's largest furniture retailer, fell 5p to 110p yesterday after the group gave warning that margins had come under pressure. John Randall, managing director, said gross margins in the second half had fallen by almost one percentage point from the 52.9 per cent achieved in the first six months. The news alarmed some City analysts, who downgraded their profit forecasts for the full year by about £5 million, to about £70 million.

Mr Randall attributed the bulk of the squeeze to significant rises in raw material costs. Chipboard prices have increased by between 15 and 20 per cent over the past six months, while paper prices have risen 40 per cent. Margins have also been hit by higher sales of products sourced externally. Like-for-like UK sales rose 6.1 per cent. MFI plans to address the problem by increasing the amount of products it manufactures in-house. It will also test customer reaction to price increases. Tempus, page 24

Thorn sells stores chain

THORN EMI has sold 231 former Rumbelows electrical stores to Escom, the German computer manufacturer and retailer, for an undisclosed sum only three weeks after it announced the closure of the loss-making chain. The 285 Rumbelows stores and 36 FONA outlets were due to close by the end of April, with the potential loss of 2,900 jobs. It is believed the sale could save several hundred jobs and reduce Thorn's provisions from £116 million to £100 million.

Henlys sales boost final

SOARING profits from bus and coach manufacturing more than outweighed poor trading in the motor dealing market to send pre-tax profits at Henlys Group ahead by 120 per cent to £16.1 million in 1994. Sales of medium-sized buses, including the group's Plaxton Pioneer, were up by 63 per cent. A final dividend of 6p almost doubles the total from 4.5p to 8.5p, against a forecast 7.5p, but still well covered out of earnings of 25.9p. Tempus, page 24

CableComms cuts prices

NYNEX CableComms, Britain's second largest cable television and telephone company, dented British Telecom's share price yesterday by cutting its call prices to 25 per cent below those of BT for residential and business customers. The move by CableComms, part of the American NYNEX Corporation, is the latest in the intense battle for customers between cable companies, BT and other telecommunications groups. BT's share price dropped 6p to 376p.

BPB bid in US rejected

NATIONAL Gypsum has rejected a $1.1 billion cash bid by BPB Industries, as too low, and Delcor, a rival suitor, said it might trump BPB's $48.50 per share offer. Delcor owns 19 per cent of National Gypsum. BPB launched its offer after Delcor withdrew a $982 million bid. Delcor now wants the same access to financial information at National Gypsum as BPB, which was allowed to look at National Gypsum's books as part of its evaluation and bid. Tempus, page 24

Harsh year sends Union into the red

TOUGH market conditions forced Union, the financial services group formerly called Union Discount, into the red last year, but the group yesterday said that its restructuring is progressing (Sarah Bagnall writes).

The group incurred a pretax loss of £3.5 million in the year to December 31 (£4.5 million profit), after a £1.8 million profit on the disposal of the Sales Aid leasing businesses. The final dividend of 1.5p makes a 3p total.

The shares stayed at 75p, compared to last year's £11 million rights price of 150p.

Money market activities lost £1.7 million and £901,000 was lost on derivative broking.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.27	2.10
Austria Sch	17.35	15.85
Belgium Fr	50.83	46.55
Canada $	2.381	2.201
Cyprus Cyp£	0.770	0.715
Denmark Kr	9.85	9.05
Finland Mkk	7.70	7.05
France Fr	8.62	7.97
Germany Dm	2.48	2.27
Greece Dr	392.00	367.00
Hong Kong $	13.07	12.07
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.3811	4.5311
Italy Lira	2765.00	2600.00
Japan Yen	167.50	151.50
Malta	0.613	0.558
Netherlds Gld	2.757	2.527
Norway Kr	10.87	10.07
Portugal Esc	252.50	234.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.41
Spain Pta	212.00	199.00
Sweden Kr	12.33	11.53
Switzerland Fr	2.10	1.92
Turkey Lira	refer	65187.0
USA $	1.705	1.575

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Scene was set long before entrance of the wild man who bet the bank and lost

The week Barings reaped its own seeds of disaster

Neil Bennett reports from Singapore that the bank had plenty of warning to avoid catastrophe

The crash of Barings was a disaster that could have been avoided. A week after the bank's collapse it is emerging that its senior management had repeated warnings about the irregular activities of Nick Leeson, its rogue trader, and had every opportunity to prevent him from destroying Britain's oldest merchant bank.

Almost from the day he arrived in Singapore in 1992, Mr Leeson gained a reputation as a brilliant but risky trader. He was always standing in the Nikkei futures pit in his familiar blue and gold jacket at the Singapore International Monetary Exchange (Simex) making large trades and doing deals when many of his competitors did not dare.

Simex is not a big market. Although it traded 24 million futures contracts last year it is tiny compared to financial markets like Liffe in London and does not even rate in the top ten. Everybody knows everybody and everybody knew that Nick Leeson was a wild man.

In one of the most polite futures markets on earth Mr Leeson stood head and shoulders above the mainly Asian traders. He was noisier and rougher. After work he and his loyal colleagues would move to Harry's Bar on the old harbour front and shout and jeer until well after dark.

The expatriate community of Simex traders in Singapore is not large — perhaps 40 men in their 20s and 30s help to run their firms' trading operations. In return they are rewarded with an enviable lifestyle. Their firms supply luxury flats, leased cars and massive bonuses for the successful. Among them, Mr Leeson was respected to the point of reverence, but he clashed with the local population. The fact that he was once fined S$200 for mooning at a party shows how different he was from the polite, restrained Singaporeans.

Mr Leeson's presence in Simex makes Barings' description of his job fall apart at once. According to Barings, Mr Leeson was an arbitrage trader. Financial arbitrage involves making tiny profits buying derivatives in one market and simultaneously selling them in another. Mr Leeson was meant to be playing the Japanese stock market futures traded on Simex against those traded on the Osaka stock exchange in Japan.

But to any outside observer with a little knowledge of the futures markets it would have been obvious that Mr Leeson was not doing this at all. Arbitrage traders, or "scalpers", as the American securities firms call them, sit at screens all day watching numbers until they see an opportunity for a small profit. Sometimes they use sophisticated computer models to show them when there is an arbitrage opportunity and they often do not hold a position for more than a few minutes.

The profit on an arbitrage deal is normally a tiny fraction of 1 per cent but it is risk-free trading as long as a dealer matches every buy order with a sell order. But it is not a business for a small bank because the profits are so tiny that large firms stake tens or hundreds of million of dollars every day to make it worthwhile.

Even though it is not large, Simex is dominated by some of the world's largest banks, including Swiss Bank, Barclays and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, which all have billions of pounds in capital to trade with. Barings, by contrast, was a flyweight punching above its weight with just £300 million in capital to back all its trading operations.

Mr Leeson did not fit the description of an arbitrage dealer in any respect. His behaviour and his team's huge profits make it clear that he was taking large positions in the market all along, gambling on the movement of the Japanese stock market. Barings' internal documents suggest that Mr Leeson's team made $30 million in the first seven months of last year compared with the entire bank's half-year profit of £54.8 million. Huge profits in this market can only mean high risk. This was incontrovertible evidence that Mr Leeson was, literally, betting the bank.

Those profits alerted Barings to send an internal audit team to Singapore which quickly spotted just how potentially damaging the situation was. They were concerned that Mr Leeson was taking risks in his trading and questioned whether he should be in charge of the firm's back office which did all the paperwork for the deals he was carrying out.

For some reason the bank did not act. Perhaps the profits Mr Leeson was making were just too tempting. It is wrong to blame one man for the collapse of Barings: the seeds of its doom were sown long before Mr Leeson ever joined. They grew from the formation of Baring Securities in 1984.

As a middle-ranking merchant bank facing a major consolidation of its core market, Barings had been desperate to find a new business to expand into. The man who provided the answer was Christopher Heath, who founded Baring Securities just when the Japanese futures market was being set up.

Baring Securities was carried along by the exceptional growth of the new market. The traditional merchant bank was staggered by the profits it made from a business that it did not really understand. Barings gave Mr Heath a high degree of autonomy and made him the highest paid employee in Britain for two successive years. "Baring Securities was always a law unto itself," a senior merchant banker said earlier this week.

Ironically, Barings had been trying to bring its securities business closer into line. In 1992 it suffered a half year of heavy losses and realised the risk of the securities business.

Peter Norris was sent from the bank to run the business and was intending to merge it into a single investment banking group later this year. But the securities business continued to do what it did best — trading in the Asian derivatives market — and Barings never really had much control over it.

Like a Shakespearean tragedy, all the elements were now in place for a disaster, but it still could have been prevented at any stage.

The catastrophe began in early January when Mr Leeson started betting that the Japanese Nikkei index would rise after a year in the doldrums. His gamble came unstuck after the Kobe earthquake, which sent Japanese share prices tumbling.

At this point Mr Leeson seems to have acted like any bad gambler: he kept buying more contracts in the market as it fell, hoping that a turn in share prices would allow him to recoup his losses.



Barings was a flyweight among the big banks, punching above its weight with just £300m in capital to back all of its trading operations

To do that he needed significant amounts of money to pay the margins on the contracts, which should have instantly alerted a well managed firm that something was wrong. But Mr Leeson had every opportunity to conceal his activities since he ran the settlements department, and reported directly to London without answering to anyone in Singapore.

He managed to hide the contracts in a secret account called Error Account number 88888. He then somehow persuaded the bank to arrange huge loans to cover his positions. Baring Securities borrowed 60 billion yen from a syndicate of 20 Japanese banks, allowing Mr Leeson to cover his losses and meet his margin payments. The bank apparently believed his positions were either hedged, or were undertaken for a client.

But how it failed to question the use of such a vast loan is still a mystery.

Finally, two weeks ago, Barings seems to have realised that all was not well. It sent another internal audit team to check the books of the Singapore offices. By Wednesday, Mr Leeson knew he could not bluff his way out any longer, and he vanished, leaving his colleagues and the audit team to discover the full horror of what he had done.

When Peter Baring, the bank's chairman, was telephoned and told the news last Friday morning, there was no time for any recriminations about who had known what when. Instead, he mounted a full-scale rescue operation, and when he knew the extent of the losses he turned to the Bank of England for help. The Bank quickly corralled a group of banks to provide a capital injection to save Barings. But they refused to underwrite Baring's huge open positions in the market.

The public news of Barings' difficulties had made it certain that the Japanese market would fall further when it opened on Monday, and no banker is prepared to write a blank cheque, no matter how badly it is needed.

Ever since Ernst & Young was appointed administrator on Sunday night, the effect of the collapse has been rippling outwards. The City has fretted about how its reputation has been damaged by the Bank's failure to mount a rescue. But the collapse has been felt far more acutely in Singapore, which views it as a serious loss of face for its growing financial services industry.

As a result, the Singapore authorities have acted quickly and efficiently to contain the damage. Barings was immediately suspended from Simex, and most of its positions were closed immediately. The country's six major banks were persuaded to offer a US$300 million loan to protect the market, and the finance ministry has already presented an eleven-point package of measures to tighten regulation in Simex.

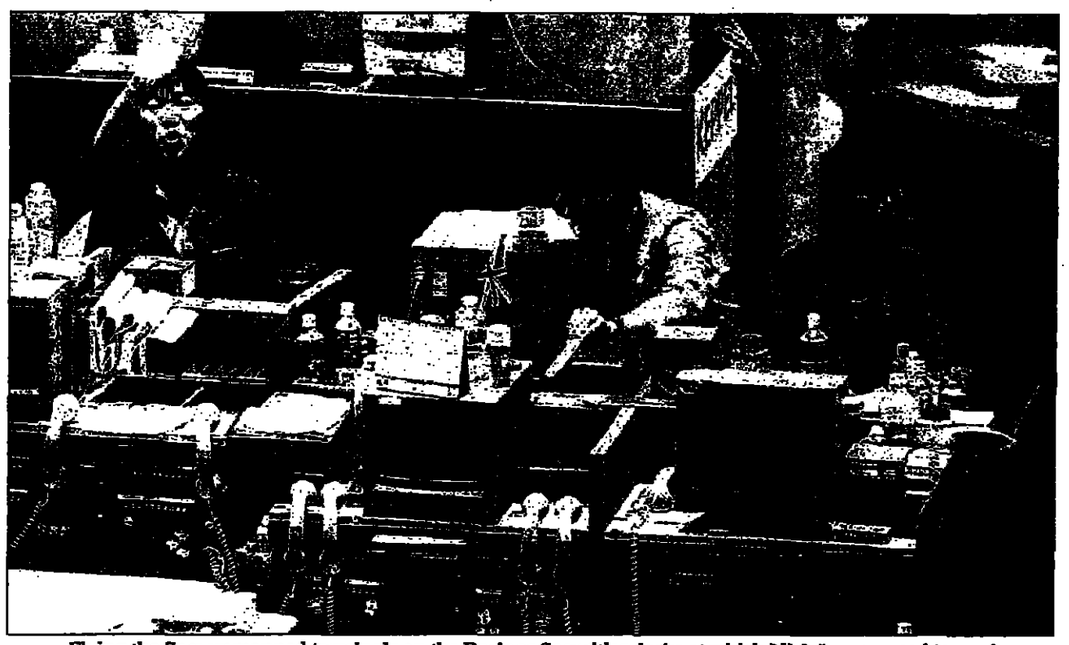
Mr Leeson's own damage limitation exercise has been rather less successful. When news of his disappearance broke, most traders believed he would be a long way from his troubles. But it now appears that he was more at home on a trading floor than on the run. Instead of boarding a flight from Kuala Lumpur immediately, he went to ground in the Kota Kinabalu beach resort, which was full of newspapers with his picture in them.

By midweek, he panicked and broke cover, and it was almost inevitable that he would be spotted.

For Simex yesterday, it was almost business as usual. Despite Singapore's bank holiday, the market opened to trade Nikkei futures contracts. Only the empty desks where Mr Leeson and his traders sat are evidence of how the market has been turned upside down in the past week.

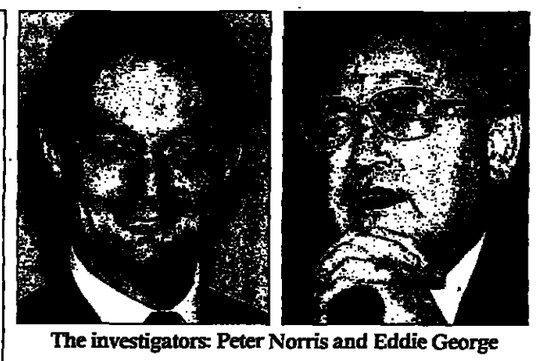
International banks prompted by their regulators are already examining the risks they run in the derivatives markets. The Barings crash will make that initiative all the more urgent. But banks in Singapore and other financial markets are already denying that it could happen to them.

Unlike Baring Securities, they make sure that one man cannot hold his firm's destiny in his dealing account.



Flying the flag: unmanned terminals on the Barings Securities desks at which Nick Leeson used to work





The investigators: Peter Norris and Eddie George



The high life: the luxury block where Nick Leeson lived. Right, a local Baring employee trying the office door





The trader and his boss: Nick Leeson in his blue and gold jacket and Peter Baring, the bank's chairman

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Smith New Court rises on takeover rumours

THIS week's collapse of Barings merchant bank may have caused turmoil in the Square Mile, but it appears to have done little to curb the enthusiasm of the speculators who remain convinced that a number of large deals are pending.

Top of the list this week has been **Smith New Court**, one of the few publicly quoted securities houses, fondly referred to as "the brothers" by those City folk whose memories go further back than Britain's withdrawal from the Exchange Rate Mechanism of the European Monetary System.

Shares of Smith New Court have been riding high during the past few days, with the speculators convinced that a bid for the company may be just round the corner. The price climbed 26p to 486p yesterday, for a rise on the week of 40p, as almost 500,000 shares changed hands in a marketplace where rival market-makers will normally only deal in blocks of 5,000 shares at a time.

Word is that **Schroders**, the merchant bank, would like to bid. The story was made all the more credible by weakness in the Schroders share price, which finished 28p lower at £14.45.

Earlier this week, Rothschild, another merchant bank, was forced to deny claims that it was in talks to sell its 20 per cent stake in SNC. There was no comment from SNC's offices last night.

One lesson that has been learnt from the Barings collapse is that in future securities houses will need bigger capital backing. One way of achieving that might be by merging with rival firms — one reason for the proposed merger earlier this year between SG Warburg and Morgan Stanley, which was aborted after failure to agree a price.

Elsewhere, talk of a counter-bid emerging for **Wellcome** early next week persisted as the price firmed another 6p to £10.41. Wellcome has until 3pm on Wednesday to find a potential suitor. That is the deadline set by the Wellcome Trust, accounting for 40 per cent of the shares, which has already agreed to sell its holding to **Glaxo**. Glaxo's offer of £10.48 a share values Wellcome at £9 billion. In the past few days, there has been talk that **Zeneca** may team up with Pfizer in the US to launch a joint bid for Wellcome. Glaxo eased 4p to 659p and Zeneca was 2p firmer at 869p.



BT's shares dipped as CableComms cut its prices

The rest of the equity market ended the week on a flat note, with both equities and gilts losing ground in the face of a weakened dollar. In thin trading, the FT-SE 100 index managed to close above its worst, in spite of another opening fall on Wall Street. It ended 13.1 down at 3,025.1 as 454 million shares were traded. The index finished down 12.6 on the week.

Among the leaders, **BT** was left nursing a fall of 6p to 376p, with almost 12 million shares traded, after reeling from the news that Nynex Cablecomms, the cable telecoms and television services group, had cut the cost of line rental and call charges by an average 25 per cent. It controls only a small percentage of the British telecoms market, but the move is certain to apply pressure to BT, which has seen its margins come under pressure because of increased competition. Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, has downgraded its recommendation for BT from a buy to a hold.

The English power generating twins finished lower on the day, with **National Power** part-paid shares begin on Monday and are expected to open at a premium of between 10p and 20p.

British Airways saw an increase of almost 6 per cent in the number of passengers carried last month. It was the best performance for the month of February in five years, with the revenue passenger kilometres up 5.9 per cent and the scheduled passenger load factor 1.9 per cent higher at 66 per cent. The shares closed 4p lower at 388p.

MFI Furniture dropped 5p to 110p after evidence of a further erosion in trading margins. Sales during the second half increased 8.5 per cent in the period to November 30, 1994, with sales of the group's French outlets surging 55.4 per cent.

Trading margins were down on the 52.9 per cent, achieved during the first six months. The company blamed raw materials price rises and said sales growth continued to come from products bought externally.

Dawson International tumbled 12½p to 96½p on the back of a profits warning. The company said that its financial performance in the second half was expected to be modestly below expectations.

The water companies made the most of some positive comments from BZW about dividend growth. There were gains for **North West**, 7p to 534p; **Severn Trent**, 4p to 520p; **South West**, 5p to 495p, **Southern**, 4p to 551p, and **Welsh**, 8p to 609p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Prices suffered opening falls, reflecting the renewed weakness in the dollar, which had succeeded in dragging US Treasury bonds lower overnight. Bond prices in Europe were generally lower at the close, with prices at the longer end of the market bearing the brunt of the losses in London.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt finished £7/16 lower at £101 15/16 as a total of 40,000 contracts were completed.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2000 finished six ticks lower at £97 11/16, while at the longer end Treasury 8 per cent 2013 was £13/32 off at £95¼.

☐ **NEW YORK**: Shares on Wall Street were mixed, reflecting the weakness of the dollar. By midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 2.07 points at 3,982.

Alvis, the armoured carmaker, rose 2½p to 58p, cheered by a buy recommendation from Panmure Gordon, the broker, after a meeting with the company. Panmure says the recently announced Indian order is worth £70 million over two years, with a further instalment expected in 1996.

Current price	Week's change	
Fisons	151½p	+26½p ..Scientific instruments disposal
AAH Holdings	434p	+125p GEHE bids £377 million
BPB Industries	285p	-32pPaying £708m for National Gypsum
Cantab Pharm's	166p	-133p Drug trials abandoned
Smith New Court	488p	+40p Speculative buying
Dawson International	96½p	-19½p Profits warning
Kleinwort Benson	572p	-48p Hit by Barings collapse
SG Warburg	681p	-37p Sentiment hurt by Barings
Pentos	4½p	-4p Receivers appointed

MARKET PRICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3982.00 (+2.07)
S&P Composite 484.64 (-0.49)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 17039.62 (+76.44)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 8185.15 (-68.18)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 405.60 (-3.53)

Sydney:
AO 1902.4 (-13.3)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2109.49 (-9.17)

Singapore:
Straits Closed

Brussels:
General 6950.30 (-9.36)

Paris:
CAC-40 1795.24 (-12.11)

Zurich:
SBA Gen 618.60 (-4.00)

London:

FT 30	2301.6 (-9.7)
FT 100	3025.1 (-13.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	3391.4 (-5.0)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1283.05 (-13.73)
FT A All-Share	1493.40 (-5.17)
FT Non Financials	1615.64 (-4.76)
FT Gold Mines	n/a
FT Fixed Interest	109.95 (-0.04)
FT Govt Secs	91.13 (-0.19)
Bargains	19546
SEAQ Volume	454.8m
USM (Datastream)	146.23 (-0.07)
US$	1.6250 (+0.0355)
German Mark	2.3294 (+0.0084)
Exchange Index	87.9 (+0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2457
£:SDR	1.0616
RPI	146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

Bath Press (10)	12½	...
Colleagues	126	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	85	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	56	...
Lazard Bkrs Ida	50½	+ ½
Lazard Bkrs Ida Wts	29¼	- ¼
MCIT SCap (35)	34	...
MCIT $ Inc (35)	36	...
Photobition (150)	153	...
Wessex Trust	11	...
Zotefoams (145)	176	+2

Cadbury Sch p/p	194	+2
Daigety 95 p/p (335)	69	-4
Euro Colour n/p (57)	21	-1
Nat Home n/p (110)	½	...
Shorco n/p (90)	1	- ½
Torex Hire n/p (50)	2½	...

RISES:

Henlys	269p (+10p)
Lex Service	293p (+5p)
Vosper Thorny	743p (+15p)
TI	347p (+5p)
Loades	360p (+15p)
Britannic	521p (+8p)
CRA	820p (+5p)
Cater Allen	428p (+8p)
Smith New Crt	486p (+26p)
Brit Biotech	465p (+18p)

FALLS:

HSBC	644p (-15p)
Whitbread	532p (-6p)
Tilbury Douglas	440p (-8p)
Broken Hill	861p (-16p)
Admiral	628p (-8p)
Delta	421p (-17p)
Millet	304p (-10p)
Tadpole Tech	222p (-12p)
Reckitt Colm	638p (-6p)
Reuters	441p (-8p)
Scott Radio	244p (-8p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Flat pack at MFI

SIX months ago, MFI spent most of its time worrying about the sluggish pace of recovery in the housing market. Now it has a new problem to contend with — raw material price increases.

This is not something that can be absorbed easily. Raw materials account for about 30 per cent of its costs and many of these are showing double-digit price increases. That will inevitably add several million pounds to the cost base. A rapidly-rising cost base at a time of flat demand is hardly a recipe for healthy earnings growth.

Margins have been squeezed further by a bigger increase in sales of externally-sourced products rather than those manufactured in-house. This has a dramatic effect on profitability. To its credit, MFI is working hard to reverse the trend, but it may find itself running hard to stand still unless consumers start buying more kitchens and bedrooms rather than smaller-ticket items.

Of course, many of its problems could be solved by raising prices to consumers, but it is unclear whether any increases would stick. It certainly could not get away with raising prices across the board which, in truth, is what it really needs to do to mitigate all the margin pressures.

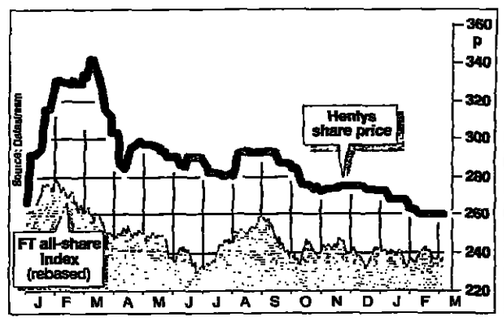
The other problem for MFI is that competitive conditions are sharpening. Magnet is being revived and J Sainsbury's acquisition of Texas, which is the second largest retailer of kitchens, cannot be good news. Until there is evidence of some stabilisation of margins, or a pick-up in the housing recovery, the shares are unlikely to outperform.

Henlys

SHAREHOLDERS who might feel miffed that Henlys' share price has been sitting well below the 280p at which the company raised £26 million last autumn received some consolation yesterday. Not only were the figures rather better than had been hoped, Henlys is exceeding by 11 per cent the dividend forecast made then.

The sterling performance of the coach and bus-making division and the difficult trading in cars is increasingly making a nonsense of the group's classification as a motor distributor. Operating profits more than quadrupled from coaches and buses after a 40 per cent rise in output on the back of full order books but no consequent increase in the cost base. A further 20 per cent rise in output can be looked for this year, while about a fifth of the division's output for 1996 is already locked in after last year's huge orders from Badgerline.

In motors, Henlys is suffering along with the rest of the trade. A refusal to chase too thin margins in the fleet business saw the group's fleet sales 5 per cent lower, against a market 15 per cent up. The aim is to lessen the reliance on the big manufacturers by acquiring a spread of different dealerships, and, even after this week's MCS purchase, Henlys can comfortably spend as much as £30 million on that. The shares sell on 10 times this year's earnings and look cheap, given the prospects for the coach and bus side.



BPB Industries

BPB's share price has been on the slide all week since the announcement of an intention to buy National Gypsum, and the latest developments from North Carolina will not help the company's task in selling the deal to the City.

Gypsum's board has rejected any offer but left the door open, while Delcor, the owner of 20 per cent of the company and the vehicle of the former chairman, now says it might top BPB's $1.12 million offer.

There must be some scepticism here, given Delcor's vested interest in raising the bidding price, but the news does give weight to US analysts' claims that BPB may have to go from the $48.50 a share now envisaged to well over $50 to clinch the deal. There has been some doubt that Gypsum can be justified even at the lower price. While a purchase would clearly enhance earnings from the outset by as much as 15 to 18 per cent over the next couple of good years for US building, the expected downturn thereafter would, if history proves a reliable forecaster, be followed by a vicious price war in plasterboard.

BPB is no stranger to the latter in its home European markets, but the situation here has never been as tough as in the United States. Meanwhile, there is an ominous silence from the third party in the affair, Lafarge, with 10 per cent of Gypsum and also every reason to force the price higher.

Dawson

THERE seems to be no end to the steady stream of bad news that has come out of Dawson International. Long-suffering investors would be forgiven for thinking that last year's expensive withdrawal from its loss-making US fleece and jersey businesses and subsequent £45 million rights issue was the end of it. But now it seems there are further write-offs and provisions to come.

Dawson remains tight-lipped about the scale of these but they could be as much as £20 million or more. That will come as an unwelcome shock to shareholders who only last year had to swallow exceptional provisions of £50 million and a £56 million goodwill write-off. That is a substantial amount for a company with a market capitalisation of about £200 million.

Even if Dawson does shed some of its underperforming operations, it will still be left with some mature low-growth businesses which are struggling under the pressure of rising raw material prices and facing fierce competition. Some radical management changes could be on their way to atone for the latest rash of bad news. Meanwhile the shares, even at these low levels, are a sell.

EDITED BY MARTIN WALLER

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1044-1043	May	1061-1057
May	1034-1033	Jul	1057-1056
Jul	1036-1035	Sep	1075-1071
Sep	1042-1040	Dec	1092-1086
Dec	1041-1039		
Mar	1052-1050	Volume: 3726	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3195-3160	Nov	3035-3030
May	3150-3155	Jan	3000-3025
Jul	3095-3090	Mar	3010-2990
Sep	3060-3055	Volume: 4308	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	344.3-42.6
Spot: 393.5		Mar	340.8-38.8
May	390.8-90.2	May	340.8-37.3
Aug	376.8-76.5	Aug	338.8-34.3
Oct	350.3-49.6	Volume: 1116	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 2

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	92.04	123.60	122.57
(+/-)	+4.23	+0.52	+0.51
Eng/Wales	92.19	123.95	122.08
(+/-)	+4.28	+0.44	+0.47
(%)	+6.0	+12.0	n/c
Scotland	79.29	122.34	124.81
(+/-)	-1.41	+0.80	+0.78
(%)	-5.0	-10.0	-4.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.70	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.75	+0.05
Brent 15 day (May)	16.65	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.50	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.30	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas 15	B: 172 (+1)	C: 174 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	148 (+1)	149 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Apr	149 (+1)	150 (+1)
Non EEC 1H May	149 (+1)	150 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	104 (-3)	107 (-2)
Naphtha	170 (n/c)	172 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	145.50-45.75	Jun	146.25-46.75
Apr	147.00-47.25	Jul	147.75-48.00
May	146.75-47.00	Vol: 17469	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.74-16.75	Jul	16.52-16.56
May	16.65-16.66	Aug	16.47-16.51
Jun	16.61-16.63	Vol: 20410	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	108.70	Mar	102.75
May	110.40	May	103.50
Jul	111.45	Sep	97.25
Sep	98.75	Nov	99.45
Nov	99.80	Jan	101.50
Volume: 58		Volume: 38	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	331.0	329.5
May	nnq	360.0
Jul	...	...
Volume: 23		

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Clf p/lb)
Apr 119.75-120.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2140	2125	2125
Apr 95	2145	2124	2130
May 95	2125	2105	2105
Jul 95	1865	1860	1860
Vol: 949 lots	Open Interest: 4191		
Index: 2066 +14			

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash: 2851.0-2853.0	3mth: 2918.0-2919.0	Vol: 1658950
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	604.00-605.00	617.00-618.00	187575
Lead ($/tonne)	1048.5-1049.0	1073.0-1073.5	465225
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	5530.0-5525.0	5590.0-5610.0	28115
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1875.0-1876.0	1909.5-1910.0	1815350
Nickel ($/tonne)	7890.0-7900.0	8053.0-8030.0	77214

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3028.0	3045.0	3009.0	3025.0	13598
Previous open interest: 68140	Jun 95	3034.0	3049.0	3019.5	3031.5	2904
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3390.0	3390.0	3390.0	3390.0	22
Previous open interest: 4078	Jun 95				3410.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	93.17	93.20	93.17	93.19	7268
Previous open interest: 454941	Jun 95	92.45	92.49	92.45	92.45	11907
	Sep 95	91.99	92.01	91.96	91.97	7107
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				93.70	0
Previous open interest: 2738	Jun 95				93.35	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.85	94.90	94.85	94.89	20603
Previous open interest: 825424	Jun 95	94.52	94.63	94.52	94.59	36030
Long Gilt	Mar 95	101-30	102-03	101-15	101-21	8255
Previous open interest: 110868	Jun 95	102-11	102-14	101-24	101-30	44535
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	111.02	111.14	110.94	111.15	631
	Jun 95	110.14	110.35	110.07	110.35	4856
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	90.92	91.11	90.63	90.82	155091
Previous open interest: 234008	Jun 95	90.48	90.62	90.14	90.32	66855
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.61	93.62	93.55	93.56	1101
Previous open interest: 26022	Jun 95	93.22	93.23	93.17	93.17	1568
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	96.06	96.10	96.05	96.07	2241
Previous open interest: 47836	Jun 95	95.70	95.75	95.70	95.72	2065
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	95.92	96.28	93.71	94.39	42190
Previous open interest: 60482	Jun 95	95.10	95.40	92.80	93.64	34902

MONEY RATES

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6%. Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5⅞ Low 4 Week fixed: 5⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth 6⅛. sell: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth: 6⅛.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Interbank:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-7⅛	7⅛-7⅛

Overnight: open 5⅝ close 4½.

Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	7	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7-6⅛	7⅛-7⅛
Dollar CDs:	6.03-6.00	n/a	6.19-6.16	6.40-6.37	6.77-6.74
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛

TREASURY BILLS: Appleis: £2.448m allotted: £700m. Bids: £98.47% received: 92%; Last week: £98.455% received: 96%; Avge rate: £6.1282% last wk £6.1884%; Next week: £700m.

EUROPEAN MARKETS

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5⅛	6⅛-5⅝	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛	5¾-4½
Deutschemark:	4⅝-3⅝	5-4⅝	5⅛-5	5⅛-5⅛	5¾-4½
French Franc:	6½-5½	6⅝-6⅛	6½-6¼	6½-6⅛	4½-3½
Swiss Franc:	3⅝-3¼	3¾-3½	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	6½-5½
Yen:	2⅛-2¼	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-1½

GOLD PRICES

Bullion: Open $375.90-376.30 Close: $376.80-377.30 High: $376.90-377.40
Low: $375.40-375.90 AM: $376.35 PM: $377.25

Krugerrand: $378.00-380.00 (£232.00-234.00)

Platinum: $405.50 (£251.45) Silver: $4.42 (£2.715) Palladium: $152.85 (£94.80)

EUROBONDS

Mkt Rates for March 3

	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6058-2.6211	2.6088-2.6121	¼-¼pr	1¼-¼pr
Brussels	47.90-48.15	47.90-48.00	5-1pr	15-9pr
Copenhagen	9.2450-9.2920	9.2650-9.2600	¼-¼pr	1¼-¼pr
Dublin	1.0050-1.0080	1.0054-1.0078	4-1pr	8-3pr
Frankfurt	2.3246-2.3365	2.3264-2.3288	¼-¼pr	1-¼pr
Lisbon	241.62-242.92	241.62-242.26	53-63dis	210-220dis
Madrid	205.57-206.22	205.57-205.87	33-43dis	111-120dis
Milan	2678.40-2720.10	2710.20-2720.10	7-9dis	20-23dis
Montreal	2.2517-2.2720	2.2686-2.2707	0.39-0.40dis	0.55-0.72dis
New York	1.6060-1.6210	1.6200-1.6210	0.05-0.04pr	0.17-0.14pr
Oslo	10.2840-10.3330	10.3040-10.3200	¼-¼pr	4½-2½pr
Paris	8.1850-8.2250	8.1860-8.2030	¼pr-par	¼pr-par
Stockholm	11.7240-11.8900	11.8010-11.8260	¼-¼dis	4½-5dis
Tokyo	152.68-153.09	152.68-152.85	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¾dis
Vienna	16.35-16.46	16.42-16.46	2¼-1¾pr	7¼-5¼pr
Zurich	1.9683-1.9816	1.9683-1.9712	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr

Source: Extel — Premium = pr. Discount = dis.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3518-1.3528
Austria	10.13-10.14
Belgium (Com)	29.67-29.70
Canada	1.4006-1.4011
Denmark	5.7165-1.7195
France	5.0770-5.0790
Germany	1.4380-1.4385
Hong Kong	7.7320-7.7330
Ireland	1.6088-1.6103
Italy	1658.50-1659.35
Japan	94.30-94.40
Malaysia	2.5500-2.5510
Netherlands	1.6120-1.6130
Norway	6.3528-6.3563
Portugal	149.40-149.60
Singapore	1.4460-1.4470
Spain	127.12-127.22
Sweden	7.2675-7.2750
Switzerland	1.2150-1.2155

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso	1.6194-1.6222
Australia dollar	2.1892-2.1920
Bahrain dinar	0.598-0.610
Brazil real	1.3691-1.3733
Cyprus pound	0.7225-0.7325
Finland markka	7.0950-7.2110
Greece drachma	368.25-375.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.5315-12.5409
India rupee	50.43-51.39
Kuwait dinar KD	0.471-0.481
Malaysia ringgit	4.1290-4.1319
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.5340-2.5375
Pakistan rupee	48.95 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.950-6.076
Singapore dollar	2.3424-2.3446
S Africa rand (fin)	6.2709-6.3073
S Africa rand (com)	5.7869-5.7930
U A E dirham	5.825-5.949

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	208	Legal & Gn	1,400
ASDA Gp	5,900	Lloyds Bk	1,800
Abbey Natl	4,100	MEPC	600
Allid Dom.	1,300	Marks Spr	1,300
Argyll Gp	3,000	Natwst Bk	4,200
Asjo Wiggn	341	Nat Power	4,400
AB Foods	519	Nth Wst W	936
BAA	1,300	P & O	991
BAT Inds	2,000	Pearson	564
BOC	1,100	PowerGen	3,100
BP	6,400	Prudential	2,900
BTR	3,700	RMC	59
BT	12,000	RTZ	1,700
Bk of Scot	1,200	Rank Org	1,700
Barclays	3,000	Reckitt Col	779
Bass	3,300	Redland	978
Blue Circle	4,200	Reed Intl	436
Boots	817	Rentokil	217
Bowater	555	Reuters	1,300
Brit Aero	2,800	Rolls Royce	1,000
Brit Airwys	2,800	Ryl Ins	751
Brit Gas	4,600	Ryl Bk Scot	4,600
Brit Steel	3,900	Sainsbury	691
Burmah Cstl	178	Schroders	37
Cable Wire	2,000	Scot & New	619
Cadbury	2,000	Scot Power	1,400
Caradon	859	Sears	5,100
Carlton Cms	560	Svrn Trent	282
Cen Union	107	Shell Trans	2,900
Courtaulds	767	Slebe	384
De La Rue	245	Smkl Bch	4,400
Eastern Elec	193	Smith Nph	695
Enterpr Oil	837	Sthern Elec	323
Forte	2,600	Std Chartd	2,700
GKN	231	Sun Allince	2,400
GRE	2,400	TI Gp	600
GUS	791	TSB	2,300
Gen Acc	235	Tesco	1,100
Gen Elec	4,300	Thames W	582
Glaxo	4,600	Thrn EMI	1,100
Granada	1,000	Tomkins	1,700
Grand Met	3,300	Unilever	1,200
Guinness	2,100	Utd Biscs	595
HSBC	1,300	Vodafone	3,000
Hanson	6,900	Warburg	245
ICI	1,700	Wellcome	2,900
Inchcape	2,300	Whitbreed	1,200
Kingfisher	269	Wilms Hld	422
Ladbroke	2,600	Wolseley	517
Land Secs	1,100	Zeneca	1,800

WALL STREET

	Mar 3 midday	Mar 2 close
AMP Inc	37¼	37¼
AMR Corp	61¼	61¾
AT & T	51	51¼
Abbott Labs	35⅜	35¾
Advanced Micro	30	29¾
Aetna Life	55¾	54¼
Ahmanson (H F)	18¼	18¼
Air Prod & Chem	48¼	48¾
Albertson's	30	30¼
Alcan Aluminm	24¼	24¼
Alco Standard	67	67¼
Allied Signal	37⅞	38¼
Alum Co of Am	39¾	38¾
Amax Gold Inc	4¾	5
Amerada Hess	49¾	49¾
Amer Brands	37¾	37¾
Amer El Power	32¾	32¾
Amer Express	33¾	33¾
Amer Genl Corp	31¼	31¼
Amer Home Pr	72¼	72¾
Amer Intl	102¼	103¼
Amer Stores	24¾	24¾
Ameritech	42¾	42¾
Amoco	59¾	59¾
Anheuser-Busch	56¼	56¼
Apple Computer	40¾	40
Archer Daniels	19¾	19
Armco	6¼	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	45¾	46¼
Asarco	26¼	26¼
Ashland Oil	32¾	32¾
Atl Richfield	111¼	109¾
Auto Data Pro	61¼	61¼
Avery Dennison	36¼	36¼
Avon Products	57¾	56¼
Baker Hughes	19¾	19¾
Baltim Gas & El	23¾	23¾
Banc One	28¾	28¾
BankAmerica	47¾	47¾
Bank of NY	32¾	33¼
Bankers Tr NY	63¾	63¾
Barnett Banks	43¾	44¼
Bausch & Lomb	33¼	33¼
Baxter Intl	30¾	31¼
Bear Stearns	53¾	53¾
Bell Atlantic	52¼	52¼
BellSouth	58	58¼
Black & Decker	26¼	26¾
Block (H&R)	29	28¾
Boeing	46¼	46¼
Boise Cascade	31¼	31
Borden Inc	12¾	12¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	61¼	61¼
Browning Ferris	30¾	30¾
Brunswick	19¾	19¾
Burlington Nthn	95¼	95¼
CBS	65¼	65¼
CNA Financial	72¾	73
CPC Intl	55¾	54
CSX	75	75¼
Campbell Soup	46¼	45¾
Can Pacific	13¾	13¾
Cpl Cities ABC	87¾	87¼
Caterpillar	49¾	49¾
Central & SW	23¾	23¾
Champion Intl	40¾	40
Chase Manhat	35¾	35¾
Chemical Bk	39¾	39¾
Chevron Corp	46¾	47¼
Chrysler	40¾	41¼
Chubb Corp	77¼	77¼
Cigna Corp	75¼	75¾
Citicorp	43¾	44¼
Clorox	61¾	61¼
Coca Cola	28¾	28¾
Coca Cola	54¾	55
Colgate-Palmolive	64¼	64¼
Columbia Gas	26	26
Compaq Comp	34¾	33¾
Comp Ass Int	60	58¾
Conagra	32¾	33
Conrail	53¾	53¾
Cons Edison	26¾	26¾
Cons Nat Gas	36¾	36¼
Cooper Inds	38¼	38¼
Corning Inc	31¼	31¼
Crown Cork	42¾	42¾
Dana Corp	24	23¾
Dayton Hudson	70	70¼
Deere	74¾	73¾
Delta Air Lines	58¾	58¾
Deluxe Corp	28¾	27¾
Detroit Edison	20	20
Digital Equip	33¾	33¾
Dillard Dept St	26¾	26¾
Disney (Walt)	54	54¼
Dominion Res	37¾	37¾
Donelley (RR)	34¾	34¼
Dover Corp	39	39¾
Dow Chemical	65¾	64¾
Dow Jones	34¾	35
Dresser	21¼	21¼
Duke Power	38¾	38¾
Dun & Bradstreet	53¾	52¾
Du Pont	55¾	55¾
Eastman Kodak	51	51¼
Enron Corp	49¾	49¾
Entergy Elec	64¾	65¾
Fleetboard Corp	36¾	36¼

	Mar 3 midday	Mar 2 close
Enron Corp	33¼	33¼
Entergy	21¾	22
Ethyl Corp	10¾	10¾
Exxon	63	63¼
FMC Corp	59¾	59¼
FPL Group	34¼	34¼
Federal Express	63¾	63¾
Fed Nat Mge	75¾	76
First Chicago	49¾	49¾
First Interstate	84¾	84¼
First Union Rlty	7¼	7¼
Fleet Fini Grp	31¼	31¼
Fluor Corp	47¾	47¾
Ford Motor	25¾	25¾
GTE Corp	33	33¼
Gannett	53¼	52¾
Gap Inc Del	31¼	31



PENSION PERIL 28

Lucky escape from let-down in retirement

WEEKEND MONEY

MONEY GUIDE

Investments you can put your trust in



Closer than you think to derivatives



ADVERTISING ARCHIVES

Derivatives are a gamble that is brought into everyday life through fixed-rate home loans and the guaranteed equity bonds offered by building societies

Like it or not, options are not just for City aces.

Caroline Merrell and **Sara McConnell** report

As the City continues to reel at fresh disclosures about events leading to Barings' ruin this week, you may be quietly congratulating yourself that at least derivatives are one thing that you never let yourself in for. This is where you would be wrong.

If you are one of thousands of investors tempted by guaranteed equity bonds, which guaranteed you your capital back plus stock market growth, you would have been directly exposed to derivatives in the form of futures and options. If you have a fixed-rate mortgage, your lender will be using interest-rate swaps, which are derivatives, to make sure that it is not stuck with a large tranche of fixed-rate money if variable rates move against it.

Could your investments be affected? Weekend Money's special two-page report explains how you are exposed to derivatives and what this means for you.

■ **Guaranteed equity bonds:** Thousands of investors have put hundreds of millions of pounds into guaranteed growth or equity bonds bonds offered by building societies in the past few years because they seem to offer a cast-iron guarantee. The bonds give a return linked to the rise in the UK stock market over the term. They also usually guarantee to return the original capital to the investor if the market falls. The rise in the index is captured using a derivative.

Societies say that they will continue to offer bonds that use derivatives in spite of the collapse of Barings, which demonstrated the risk of these instruments.

The bonds were aimed at investors wanting to benefit from the rewards of stock-market investment without any of the downside risk.

Societies themselves are not allowed to deal in derivatives. The societies buy a derivatives contract from a third party that will guarantee, at the end of the five-year term, that the society will receive an amount equivalent to the percentage rise in the market. Third parties would usually be a bank or an investment manager and could have included Barings.

However, the societies point out that even if the derivative had been bought through Barings, which now obviously is not in a position to pay over the money at the end of the five years, the societies themselves would have to honour their promise to customers. The money of the society's members should not be at risk because the society will only have to pay back original capital plus whatever return they guaranteed. The commitment is not open-ended.

> 'You have to be very careful about whom you do options with'

Nationwide Building Society has offered a number of these products over the years. *Richard Lassen, Nationwide's divisional director, treasury,* says that it has never used Barings as a third party and that the society spreads its risk through about 40 institutions.

"You have to be very careful about whom you choose to do options with," Mr Lassen said. "That is always a difficult one. You have to make sure they are financially strong." He points out that, in any case, these guaranteed bonds tend to be sold only in tranches of about £10 million, which is small compared with the society's asset size of £25 billion.

Save & Prosper also offers guaranteed growth products that use derivatives from time to time. S&P uses some third parties for derivatives, as well as in-house facilities. Mike Ryder-Richardson, marketing manager, says: "Derivatives are used as a way of managing risk. The situation with Barings just reveals a lack of control."

Britannia Building Society has sold £150 million worth of guaranteed bonds over the past few years. Trevor Bayley, finance director, says that Britannia has used Barings as the third party in the past.

Mr Bayley says: "We had planned to pull out of the guaranteed bond market anyway. We felt that the market had reached saturation point".

■ **Fixed-rate mortgages:** If you have a fixed-rate mortgage, your lender has almost certainly used derivatives to manage its interest-rate risk. This poses no risk to you as a borrower.

Your lender wants to guard against two risks. The prevailing variable rate of interest may rise above the fixed rate, forcing the lender to pay out more to savers than it is receiving in interest from borrowers.

Alternatively, the prevailing rate of interest may fall below the fixed rate, making the fixed rate on offer less attractive to borrowers and leaving the lender with fixed-rate money that it has paid for at a specific rate but cannot lend to borrowers at a rate that would make the transaction profitable.

If rates turn against them, banks' or building societies' treasury departments will often swap the fixed rate for a variable-rate loan in the market, so that they are not locked into a fixed rate. The swap itself is called a derivative.

Tamlyn Nall, of Lloyds Bank, says: "Derivatives are just a tool to manage risk, be it interest-rate risk, equity risk or currency risk. We cannot put ourselves in the situation where we are paying our savers, for instance, 15 per cent and only receiving in 9 per cent."

■ **Direct derivative investment:** Private investors can use certain types of derivatives to enhance their returns, but you should not contemplate doing so unless you are sure you know what you are doing and have an investment portfolio worth at least £100,000.

The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange says that, in the UK, options are often seen as too difficult for the private investor to understand. Even so, private investors account for about a fifth of options traded.

Most individuals never buy futures, which are riskier than options. If you do want to use options as part of your portfolio, there are two ways.

If you write a "put" option against your investment portfolio, you are obliged to buy a certain amount of stock from a third party, perhaps a bank or an insurance company, when the stock reaches a certain price. If it never reaches that price, you do not have to buy. You have to pay the stockbroker a margin, a gesture of goodwill, for that option. It will typically be 20 per cent of what the total price of the shares will be. You will receive a sum of money, a premium, for the option from the third party. You must have collateral to buy the shares.

If you write a "call" option against your portfolio, a third party pays you a premium for the right to buy some shares at a certain price. The share price may never reach this price, so you may benefit from the premium and keep the shares.

Barings ring-fence stood test

TRUST WATCH

NIGHTMARE became reality this week for nearly 50,000 unitholders in Barings' 20 unit trusts. They woke up on Sunday to the unfolding drama of the merchant bank's collapse and fears over the safety of their money (Robert Miller writes).

Fortunately, they were later to hear that the £1 billion of funds invested in the trusts was ring-fenced — secured — and dealing in the units began again on Thursday. The assets are now in the hands of the trusts' independent trustees.

Philip Warland, director-general of the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds, said: "Every penny in the Barings unit trusts has been accounted for. None of the cash was on deposit with Barings Bank. There is a clear division between the manager of the money and the independent trustee who holds the assets of the trust."

The Barings debacle highlighted another important feature of safe custody. Prudent fund managers, whether of unit trusts, pension funds, charities or investment trusts, keep a small percentage of their portfolios in cash.

Several billion pounds of such funds were on deposit at Barings, when it went into administration. These were immediately frozen.

But for the proposed sale of the bank to ING Group, many depositors could have faced serious losses. Perpetual, which had £2 million from its Money fund on deposit at Barings, immediately promised that it would cover any losses.

Barings' four investment trusts are also involved. Tribune, the largest, has just over £7 million in cash on deposit with the collapsed bank.

The much smaller Stratton trust has £1.8 million on deposit. Whether the money is completely safe very much depends on the terms of the sale.

Both trusts have monthly savings schemes, as does the third trust, Wigmore. Monthly contributions taken just before the bank failed may have been frozen.

Dealings in the shares of the fourth trust, Emerging European, were suspended this week.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Meanwhile, back at the mill

INVESTMENT STRATEGY



ANTHONY HARRIS

What goes around, comes around, as the Americans put it. In the early 1990s the financial markets boomed, while the world's real economies were in terrible shape. Now we have financial alarms of every kind, creating shapeless dread in investors.

They may, indeed, be too shell-shocked to notice that the real economy, especially our own, seems to be drifting into a new golden age. Financial trouble could still wreck the real economy; it has happened before. We must simply trust the central bankers, and though some of them may seem a bit gutless, they are neither blind, nor stupid. An accidental recession only too possible; not a slump.

There is now a lull in the financial storm: Mexico, the potential black hole, is in intensive care, though still on the critical list. Those who unwisely trusted Barings can hope to get their money back, thanks to Dutch courage.

Do not rejoice too soon, though: the real cause of financial strain, a world-wide shortage of liquidity, remains a threat to asset values. The Osaka earthquake and the Mexican collapse have both made matters worse, the first by adding $100 billion to world credit demand, the second by imposing huge losses in the US. The Fed has responded as a central bank must, by lending energetically. This is simply filling a vacuum, but already the surviving inflation fogeys have taken fright, which is not good news for bonds. Nerves will remain taut.

Given reasonable management, though, all this is potential good news for the real world of productive work. It offers a virtual guarantee against another damaging boom-bust cycle, and promises low inflation, as two of the Chancellor's Wise Men, Patrick Minford and Tim Congdon, conclude this week.

These two professors are intelligent monetarists, at a time when monetarism is out of fashion, so they have little influence on conventional thinkers; but they produced the two best UK forecasts of 1994. Among the worst were the high priests: in descending order, the Treasury, its nursery, the London Business School, the European Commission and the National Institute.

The wise investor, then, will believe the professors about growth and inflation, noting especially that UK manufacturing growth, responding to export demand, is picking up again, which promises further gains in productivity (especially in the productivity of capital plant), and thus further gains in profit margins. But they will also be aware that official policy, otherwise known as the Ken and Eddie show, will be listening to more conventional voices. They will worry about rising bank lending and input costs, and keep domestic demand unduly depressed. Bad news, until they awake, for retail margins and services.

The fact is that the raw material price correction, which was needed to assure future supplies, is already past its peak. The rise in semi-manufactures such as paper, steel and rubber soon will be. Reports of short supply in these markets, another cause of conventional alarm, reflect stockpiling when prices were rising, which also explains much borrowing. When buyers start to use their stocks, loans will be paid down and spare capacity will appear as if by magic. Don't be frightened by the shadows of the past.

This analysis suggests that equities, especially industrials, offer unusually good value at the moment. Rising US earnings have driven Wall Street indices to a new peak, but London, beset by politics, has yet to reflect the excellent underlying prospects.

Nerves persist, so don't expect a roaring bull market starting on Monday; but as the year passes, the "feel-good" factor should begin to appear at last. How far? This column does not forecast; but Hoare Govett, for one, does and sees the Footsie at 3,500 by the year-end. Not far-fetched, by any means.

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Two faces of money management

The key investment issues of the week both begin with a B, Barings, the merchant bank and Branson, entrepreneur, ardent self-publicist and the newest name in personal equity plans.

The first B stands for the traditional face of money management, for security, superb contacts and stock picking know-how. But, as the bank's deficiencies become daily more apparent, it seems ever more likely that the face of the future will look something like the second B, Mr Branson.

The Barings boys, with their signet rings and hair in the Hugh Grant style, would probably advise you never to entrust your money to a man with a beard. Especially one who never wears suits. Mr Branson, however, will bear them no grudge, being doubtless extremely grateful for the boost that they have given to his latest enterprise.

While arranging the launch of his low-cost personal equity plan, he might have dreamt of the breaking of a scandal, calculated to show the competition in an unflattering light. But even the Virgin marketing machine could not have put together the combination of events that arose at Barings: the failure of the bank and uncertainty surrounding depositors' cash and uninvested pension scheme money. At the same time, the assets of Barings' unit trusts were ringfenced from the collapse, a detail that will give heart to potential investors in the Virgin unit trust-based Pep.

The Virgin Pep venture is determinedly populist and anti-pinstripe. Barings' £500,000-a-year fund managers will be aghast to learn that there are no front-end charges and no bid-offer spread. In case you are worrying about the impact of this on Mr Branson's lifestyle, you will be relieved to learn that there is a 1 per cent annual management charge and an exit fee for those who disinvest. Running a tracker fund which mimics a share index is also relatively simple and inexpensive.

If the Virgin Pep turns the previously disaffected into enthusiastic investors, then it will bring a rush of further price reductions in the unit trust industry. This would be even worse news for the financial services sector, compelled this year to reveal the amounts it deducts from contributions to endowments and pensions. More may now be changing for the Barings boys than the name of the owner of their bank.



COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH
Personal Finance Editor

On the subject of charges, Mr Branson could perhaps now use his influence with City watchdogs to bring a little more clarity to one part of the new disclosure rules. In a report in this week's Times Money Guide, we collected figures to show which mortgage repayment method (unit trust savings plan, endowment or Pep) was most likely to clear the loan.

We discovered, however, that insurance companies can still conceal some facts, in spite of regulations that now oblige them to tell all. The rate at which charges deducted from the investment will grow can be assumed to be either 0 per cent, 4.5 per cent and 6 per cent. However, the companies are not forced to show this salient point on the key features document given to clients. This is intended to give the whole truth and nothing but, and form the basis of a decision to invest.

This missing information can have an impact on the final return and should be included. Or do life insurers still have something to hide?

Those who take retirement planning seriously will write to the Department of Social Security to ask for a forecast of their basic state pension entitlement. Many, however, never get round to the task, believing either that the information will be unintelligible, or is bound to be correct anyway. But as we report on page 28, women who fail to ask for a forecast may well lose out on Home Responsibilities Protection, which compensates for time spent caring for families. You can leave nothing to chance or the DSS.

Our lesson on buying and selling the future

Derivatives need not disconcert. Sharon Colback explains all

APPRECIATING the complexities of derivatives may be beyond directors of merchant banks. However, you can begin to understand how they work by reading our guide.

Q Just what are derivatives?

A A derivative is a tradeable contract based on (or derived from) something, such as cotton, gold, a share, a share index or currency. Instead of buying or selling the commodity or share, you trade the derivative and gain, or lose, just as if you owned the commodity or share. You make money if the price rises and lose it if the price falls. The commonest derivatives are futures and options.

Q How are derivatives used?

A To "hedge", or protect, existing holdings against price falls, or as a gamble on price movements.

Q How do futures work?

A A future obliges each party to the contract to fulfil it by some future date. It is an agreement to deliver an asset, like a share, or to pay cash instead.

Q How does an option differ?

A An option is a similar contract to buy or sell, but it allows the choice of fulfilling the contract or letting the option to do so lapse. The seller of an option on a house might say "I agree to sell to you now for an immediate fee, the option to buy this house at £100,000 in three months' time". If the house price had fallen to £90,000 before the option expired, the buyer would not buy it at the option price since he could buy it more cheaply on the open market. He would lose to the seller the original premium he had paid for the option.

Q Where are futures and options traded?

A Via computer link, or, physically, on a trading floor at exchanges such as the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe). They can also be sold by a seller (a bank, for example) direct to a buyer (an institutional or other client) as an over-the-counter (OTC) trade.

Q What is the role of Liffe?

A Liffe acts as a market place, bringing buyer and seller together. The London Clearing House, owned by the six major UK banks, keeps a daily tally of losses and gains on every contract traded. The party losing from the contract has to make a daily payment to cover the losses. The side gaining has money credited to its account. This is intended to eliminate the possibility of a major default by either party.

Q Does an OTC contract offer that safeguard?

A No. There is considerable concern that if a bank or market-maker writing a contract were to fail, this could damage the financial stability of the other party.

Q Who uses derivatives?

A Professional investment managers use them to hedge against risk or to enhance performance. A future can give the same exposure to a market as the underlying share or commodity, but more quickly and at lower initial cost.

Q Do any funds specialise in derivatives?

A Futures and Options Funds and Geared Futures and Options Funds are promoted to rich risk-takers.

Q Can individuals trade directly in derivatives?

A Yes, but it is suitable only for rich, sophisticated investors who know the risk and want to protect portfolios.

Q How are derivatives used as a hedge?

A Someone with a share portfolio mirroring the FT-SE 100 index and fearing a market fall could sell futures contracts equal to the portfolio value. If the index falls, his futures position gains money as his share portfolio loses.

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Right from the start, in 1957, Premium Bonds were a winning attraction

Premium Bond bonanza grows

Ernie's millions mean more sales but lower savings rates, says Liz Dolan

Essex man appears to have the Midas touch when it comes to premium bonds. Baroness Thatcher's favourite county is celebrating the creation of its second premium bond millionaire (or millionairess — anonymity is guaranteed for premium bond winners) since the monthly prize was increased to the magic £1 million on April 1 last year — a one in six strike rate equalled only by Surrey.

While promoters of football pools and scratch cards complain of dwindling sales in the face of the new and considerable challenge from the National Lottery, Premium Bonds continue to knock spots off the competition.

According to the latest available figures, sales of the bonds continued to climb in January, by a further £22 million to £137 million. They were National Savings' biggest contributor to government coffers, with £100 million. The next largest sector was National Savings certificates, with £80 million, followed by the National Savings investment account, which contributed £71 million.

The growth in Premium Bond investment means a commensurate increase in the value of total prize money.

This month's winners will share a total jackpot of £20.5 million, compared with £20 million in February. The extra £500,000 is to be shared between winners of £1,000 or less.

While Premium Bond punters make merry, there is still no sign of a rate rise for investors in other National Savings products.

Building societies and banks have boosted returns for their savers in the past month or so, but the Government, which has announced two base rate rises since the Budget, still shows no sign of recommending any increase in National Savings rates to compensate its own loyal investors.

Last month, National Savings appeared to hint that a rate increase may at last be on the way. This week, it was back in more cynical mode.

It commented: "There is no need to increase our rates because people are still buying our products. Maybe the building societies have had to increase theirs because they were less competitive to begin with."

Observers suspect that it is not so much a continuous stream of savers that is preventing National Savings from raising its rates, as the huge, and growing, number of Premium Bond holders keeping the wolf from the Government's door.

National Savings said last month that it was "on course for the assumed contribution to funding for 1994-95 of about £3.5 billion".

If the amount contributed by Premium Bonds continues to grow each month, they could easily contribute the equivalent of nearly half of this year's total contribution in the next financial year. The more they put in, the less effort National Savings has to make to attract new savers.

It is now well over a year since National Savings investors enjoyed an increase in variable savings rates. Fixed rates, which are less expensive to increase, because the new rate applies to new investments only, have remained static for more than six months.

Funds already salted away at the lower fixed rate are pegged at that level for the duration of the life of the bond, which is often five years.

Since the first premium bond was drawn in June 1957, National Savings has given away a grand total of 47.8 million prizes.

The total value of those prizes is £2.82 billion.

C&G set for lively time at meeting

THE Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society's unscheduled extra meeting, forced on it by dissatisfied members, promises to be a lively affair if the thousands of letters and telephone calls received by Weekend Money are anything to go by.

C&G announced this week that the special meeting will be at Cheltenham Town Hall on Saturday, March 25. On the following Friday, members will be attending the official meeting in London to vote on the proposed £1.8 billion takeover of the society by Lloyds Bank.

The deadline for postal votes is midnight on Sunday, March 26.

The meeting in Cheltenham, which will cost £500,000 to stage, will consider how to enable borrowers, and investors of less than two years' standing, to get some financial benefit from the merger. Both groups can vote, but are currently excluded from receiving the generous bonus payouts offered to other C&G members if the deal goes through.

The meeting will also consider a paper alternative to the proposed cash payments, to enable members to defer capital gains tax liability on bonuses.

Andrew Longhurst, the C&G chief executive, said that the meeting was unnecessary for two reasons. Firstly, C&G's board had already considered the major issues, and, secondly, members would, in any case, have the chance to express their views at the main London meeting.

The minimum bonus for qualifying C&G investors is £513 and the potential maximum is £13,500.

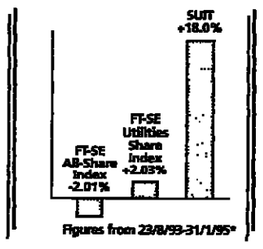
In the C&G transfer documents, mailed to more than a million members late last month, the society said that it had considered all the options open to it and had finally decided that a Lloyds-type deal was the best.

ROBERT MILLER

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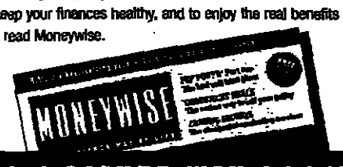
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Money for unloved endowment policies

When a cash crisis strikes, a few families can still survive by packing off the silver to Sotheby's. Other, less fortunate, households casting about for something to stave off their creditors, think first of a forgotten endowment policy. But, despite the various outlets that now exist to bring together unwanted policies and investors, about £700 million worth of endowments each year suitable for resale are still surrendered to life insurance companies.

The difference in the size of the cheque can be substantial — more than 30 per cent larger in some cases. Yet it appears that many financial advisers still fail to recommend that clients put their policies into the hands of the Association of Policy Market Maker member companies that buy and sell with-profits endowments and whole-of-life policies.

A policy is suitable for the second-hand market if it has run for at least five years and has a surrender value of £2,000 or more. The procedure is explained in a free Association of Market Makers brochure (copies 0171-739 3949).

Despite falling bonuses, investors apparently continue to see endowments as a secure investment, with many being convinced that bonuses will not be further decreased. They also take comfort that, once added to a policy, bonuses cannot be taken away. New buyers benefit from all the bonuses given from the date of purchase. When the policy matures, they pick up the proceeds, receiving a 11-13 per cent return on their investment.

According to Sammy Alexander of Policy Portfolio, a second-hand policy company, some investors have favourite life offices and are prepared to pay a premium for their policies. One man, for example, pursues Scottish Life policies, but only those taken out before 1968.

Policy Portfolio, at present only a market maker, matching buyer and seller, will, next month, be diversifying into auctioneering, a field where the long-established HE Foster & Cranfield has a monopoly. Policies can sometimes fetch slightly better prices at auction. Policy Portfolio has prepared a free guide, *How to Auction an Endowment Policy* (copies 0181-343 2900) and will be holding a seminar before each sale.

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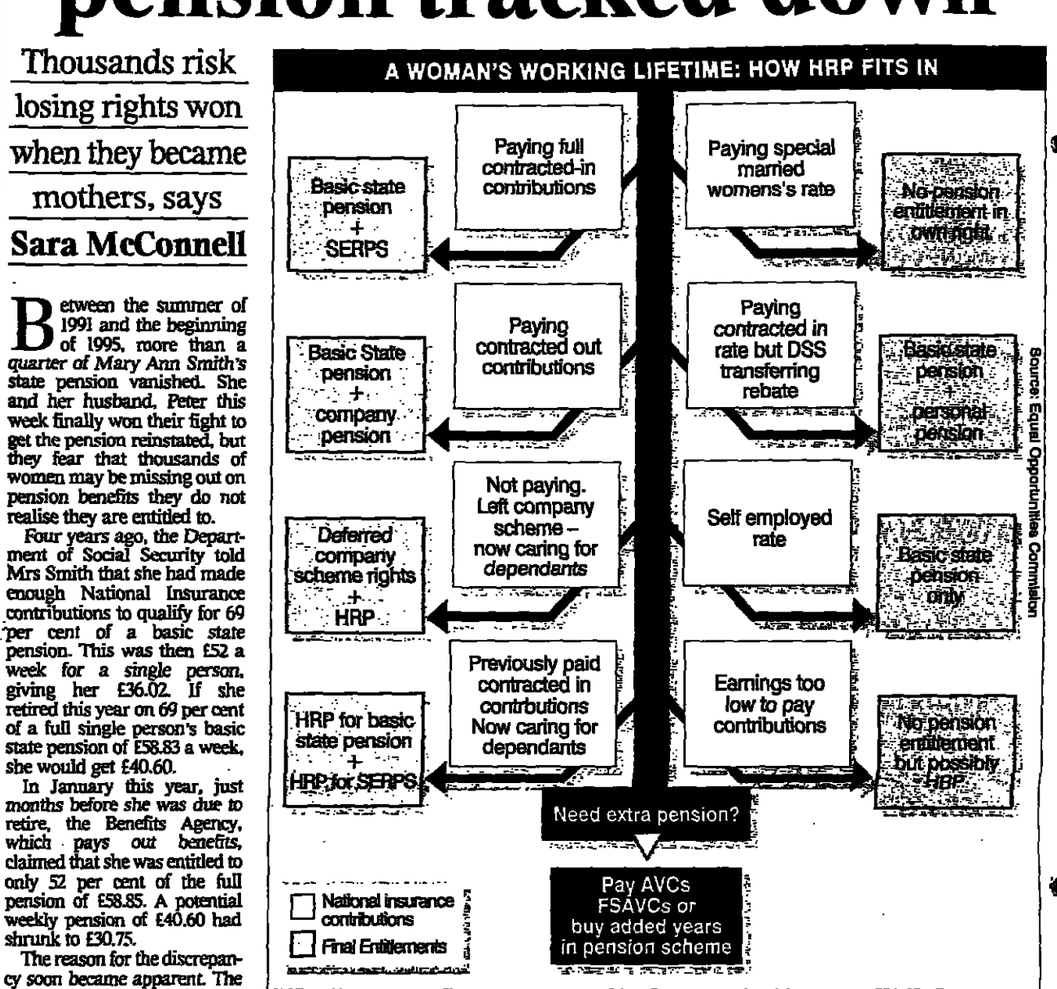
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DAVE MUSCROFT

Peter and Mary Ann Smith say that it was only by luck they noticed that she was missing out on pension

Amazing disappearing pension tracked down

Thousands risk losing rights won when they became mothers, says

Sara McConnell

Between the summer of 1991 and the beginning of 1995, more than a quarter of Mary Ann Smith's state pension vanished. She and her husband, Peter this week finally won their fight to get the pension reinstated, but they fear that thousands of women may be missing out on pension benefits they do not realise they are entitled to.

Four years ago, the Department of Social Security told Mrs Smith that she had made enough National Insurance contributions to qualify for 69 per cent of a basic state pension. This was then £52 a week for a single person, giving her £36.02. If she retired this year on 69 per cent of a full single person's basic state pension of £58.83 a week, she would get £40.60.

In January this year, just months before she was due to retire, the Benefits Agency, which pays out benefits, claimed that she was entitled to only 52 per cent of the full pension of £58.85. A potential weekly pension of £40.60 had shrunk to £30.75.

The reason for the discrepancy soon became apparent. The forecast that Mrs Smith had requested in 1991 included 10 years of home responsibilities protection rights (HRP). Mrs Smith had stopped full-time work to bring up her children, the youngest of whom was 16 in 1989. This meant that she automatically qualified for HRP, introduced in 1978 to reduce the years that people with family responsibilities have to work to get a full state pension (see table). The forecast said: "Our records show that up to and including April 5, 1991, you may be entitled to 10 years of HRP."

However, there was no mention of HRP from the Benefits Agency this year. It was only after repeated visits and telephone calls to the local Benefits Agency office that the Smiths finally managed to get confirmation that Mrs Smith's HRP rights should be included in her pension. But she still does not know how much pension she will receive. Mr Smith said: "Our initial feeling was one of shock. Fortunately, I have savings and a pension of my own." But he added: "I feel aggrieved that we have to fight."

The Benefits Agency demanded proof that Mrs Smith was claiming family allowance (now child benefit) for her children and therefore qualified automatically for HRP. By chance, she still had the last benefit book issued to her, in 1988. However, the Child Benefit Office in Newcastle upon Tyne told the Smiths that it destroyed records after five years. The Benefits Agency confirmed this but said records were still held on the register of the Contributions Agency, which handles National Insurance contributions. No one at the Benefits Agency or the Contributions Agency could explain the discrepancy between Mrs Smith's pension forecast and final pension.

The Benefits Angency said this week: "Any customer who is concerned about discrepancies between a forecast and the final pension awarded or who believes that the pension has been wrongly calculated should apply at their local Benefits Agency office for a pension review."

Mr Smith said that it had been luck that his wife had asked for the forecast, without which she would have had nothing with which to compare the final pension. "I was taking early retirement from teaching and I got a pension forecast," he said. "I suggested my wife did the same."

Mr Smith fears that thousands of women who took time out of jobs to raise children or care for an disabled person may, through Benefits Agency error, be getting a lower pension than they are entitled to.

Lorraine Fletcher, of the Equal Opportunities Commission, agreed: "This is very worrying. Women receiving child benefit should get HRP automatically. Why should [the Smiths] have to prove they are eligible?"

The EOC advises women nearing retirement to get a pension forecast, which can be done at local Benefits Agency offices with form BR19.

HOW HRP WORKS

■ The amount of basic state pension you get depends on the National Insurance contributions you make. You have to work roughly 90 per cent of your working life (44 years for women, 49 years for men) to qualify for a full state pension.

■ If you have long periods not working at all or not earning enough to pay NI contributions because you are bringing up children or looking after a sick or disabled person, you should be able to claim home responsibilities protection (HRP). This safeguards your pension level by reducing the number of years' work needed to qualify for full benefits.

■ You get HRP automatically if you receive child benefit for a child under 16 for the whole tax year up to April 5 1988 or 48 weeks of any subsequent tax year. You also get it automatically if you have been claiming income support for at least 48 weeks in the tax year (the whole tax year for years up to April 5, 1988) so that you can look after a sick or disabled person at home.

■ You have to apply for HRP if you are looking after someone receiving attendance allowance, constant attendance allowance or the highest or middle rate of disability living allowance care component or in certain other circumstances. Consult your DSS office.

■ From June this year, if you have a complaint about the Contributions Agency, the arm of the Social Security department that collects NI contributions, you can complain to Elizabeth Filkin, the Inland Revenue adjudicator. She will handle problems arising on or after April 1 1995. Contact 0171-930 2292.

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Virgin to track young investors

Branson launches telephone-based cut-price Pep to target a wider mix of savers, says Liz Dolan

Richard Branson returns to the City this weekend, six years after buying back all the shares in his Virgin group and storming out of the Square Mile in high dudgeon, railing against short-termism and other stock market sins.

Since scooping up his toys and refusing to play any more in 1989, Mr Branson has had a change of heart. But, this time, he has adopted the guise of aggressor, rather than victim — that of Virgin Direct, price-busting financial services company, rather than Virgin Group, unwilling seductress of hard-nosed stock market dealers.

Speaking on BBC TV's *Money Programme* last weekend, Mr Branson, one of the UK's wealthiest men, said: "I had a bit of money to invest myself and I started to ask questions and found that quite a lot of that money was going in commissions." He then read an article which said that commissions on a typical pension, with a payout of £300,000 at age 60, amounted to £145,000. He added, with careful understatement: "It seemed that this was an industry possibly run by people who were sort of in the bracket of fat cats and was one to be attacked."

As the well-flagged launch of the new telephone-based company got under way yesterday, more details emerged of its first product, a unit trust Pep which claims to be at least 40 per cent cheaper than the industry average.

The unit trust is a tracker fund. This means its performance mirrors exactly that of the FT-SE-A All-Share index, which covers more than 900 quoted companies in the UK. Tracker funds have outperformed virtually all actively managed funds in the UK growth and income sector over the past five years (see box below).

There are no front-end charges and, effectively, no bid-offer spread either. No spread means that the buying and selling price of the units are identical. At the moment, unit holders in other equity-based funds buy at a higher price than that at which they sell.

The annual management fee is 1 per cent and the exit charge of 0.5 per cent is to cover stamp duty only. Low overheads help to keep charges low — tracker funds cost less to run, and so do telephone-only services.

Norwich Union has contributed £25 million to the fund to act as seedcorn until an equivalent amount can be extracted from, as it were, "real" investors. This will be used to buy holdings in every single one of the components of the All-Share index rather than, as with some tracker funds, what is considered to be a representative sample of stocks.

Over the next few weeks, Virgin will concentrate on attracting as much cash as possible from reasonably sophisticated investors who have still to use their £6,000 Pep allowance before the tax door slams shut on April 6.

Those who invest the full £6,000 get two £30 Virgin Airways vouchers. Annual fees for maximum investors are rebated in the form of extra airline gift vouchers each year until 1998. This offer is open to anyone investing before February 1997.

At the moment, non-Pep investors are virtually ruled out by the imposition of a minimum investment limit of £100,000. But, this minimum will tumble in the new tax year with the introduction of a regular savings plan to bring in younger and first-time investors.

At the same time, the advertising net will be widened to reach people who have never considered investing in equities, or have been deterred by the image of pin-striped sharks intent on blinding them with science while parting them from their hard-earned cash.

This strategy is expected to bring down the age of the average investor from 45-55 to 35-plus, especially as advertising expands into consumer glossies and other mainstream publications. The fact that the Pep can be bought (definitely not sold) over the phone is also expected to appeal to a younger than average age group.

The initial response from the competition is mildly sceptical. "They must have some sort of bid-offer spread," says Richard Farquhar, product performance manager at HSBC, owner of James Capel and Midland Bank. "Our FT-SE 100 tracker fund has one of just 1.3 per cent, and that has to be the narrowest on the market. We don't believe anyone can beat our charging structure."

HSBC has just abolished the 4.175 per cent initial charge on its FT-SE tracker — coincidentally around the time when news of the Virgin Pep began to leak out. Annual charges are 1 per cent, and there is no exit fee. The offer price (the one you buy at) is currently 50.89p, and the bid price (the one you sell at) is 50.23p.

Tony Wood, Virgin's marketing manager, says that such a spread is only necessary if units have to be cancelled when they are cashed in. In an expanding fund such as Virgin's, cashed-in units will simply be sold on to new buyers, he says. There is a potential spread of just over 1 per cent, but only if the trust has to cancel units. "say in three or four years' time". If, as expected, single pricing of all unit trusts comes in later this year, bid-offer spreads will disappear for everyone, in any case.

Virgin Direct plans to introduce a higher income product later in the summer, but this will not necessarily be tied to the original tracker fund.

Next winter sees the launch of its new all-singing, all-dancing life and pensions products. The marketing strategy will once again include low charges and maximum simplicity.

MARTIN BEDDALL



Richard Branson, left, celebrates the launch on HMS Belfast in London with Philip Scott, of Norwich Union, and Rowan Gormley, head of Virgin Direct

See how they ran

FEWER than half the unit trusts actively managed by teams of highly paid professionals in the UK growth and income sector have managed to outperform the FT-SE All-Share index in each of the past seven years, according to figures from Micropal, the unit trust statistics group.

Worse still, in four of those years, fewer than one in three funds beat the index. Over the past five years, only 28 of the 206 funds grew faster than the FTA index.

In the light of these findings, "Where is the logic in sticking all your investment eggs into actively-managed funds?" asks Richard Farquhar, of HSBC Asset Management. He suggests, at the very least, maintaining a core holding in a tracker fund, and then increasing the risk-reward ratio by investing the rest in managed trusts.

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TELEPHONE selling is also spreading within the formerly staid sphere of mortage marketing, as lenders compete for the limited amount of home loan business available in a slow housing market.

This week, the Bradford & Bingley Building Society and the Nationwide Building Society have joined the Abbey National, the Bank of Scotland, Direct Line, the Britannia Building Society and the National & Provincial Building Society in the direct market and others will surely follow.

The Bradford & Bingley Mortgages Direct Service will be offering repayment and interest-only loans. But the society has taken the controversial decision to undercut its branches, offering its direct customers a lower rate. Other societies with direct divisions have standard rates for both direct and branch mortgages.

Mortgages Direct borrowers will benefit from a 7.3 per cent variable rate (interest-only or repayment), whereas those who go through a Bradford & Bingley branch must pay 8.45 per cent.

Bradford & Bingley's existing borrowers will be disappointed to learn that they cannot switch to Mortgages Direct. The society says most of these customers would have had the benefit of an introductory offer, such as a discount, or a cash-back deal, when they took out their loan.

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T I

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The salesman will call. However, the details you are being asked to supply may be used to provide you with details of services which Scottish Amicable and its subsidiaries offer. Please tick here if you do not wish to receive this information ☐ We will not pass your name on to any unconnected organisation

Incorporated By Act of Parliament. The principal office of Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society is in Scotland at 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NQ. Registration No 212. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. Member of the Association of British Insurers and the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau. Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society, Scottish Amicable Pensions Investment Ltd, Scottish Amicable Unit Trust Managers Ltd, Scottish Amicable PEP Managers Ltd and Scottish Amicable International Assurance Plc form a marketing group. The Capital Guarantee only applies at the end of the plan term, otherwise the value of the investment may reduce. Information is based on the current tax legislation.

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Banks vying for house-hunters

NATIONAL Westminster Bank and Lloyds Bank have launched a spring offensive in the mortgage market with ranges of fixed-rate and discounted mortgages, and cash-back schemes.

For first-time buyers, NatWest's range includes a 6.99 per cent loan, with the rate fixed until June 30, 1997. The rate carries an arrangement fee of £100.

For all customers, NatWest offers a 7.49 per cent rate, fixed for two years; an 8.89 per cent rate, fixed for five years; and four loans fixed at 9.99 per cent for ten, 14, 19 and 23 years. For non-NatWest mortgage customers, these rates carry a £250 arrangement fee. NatWest will not charge the arrangement fee for existing borrowers.

The bank is also offering a range of discounted-rate loans, with discounts as high as 4 per cent. The 4 per cent discount is offered until July 31, 1996, for borrowers with more than 25 per cent deposit. Borrowers with less deposit can have a 3 per cent discount.

Lloyds Bank is offering its borrowers up to £6,000 cash back. The cash-back scheme is offered to borrowers who take out its variable-rate loan.

Abbey National has also launched a range of discounted variable-rate mortgages. For those with more than a 25 per cent deposit, the maximum discount they can benefit from is 5.34 per cent on a variable rate of 8.34 per cent. The discount runs until May 31, 1996. This loan is available only to existing Abbey National borrowers who are moving house. For other borrowers with more than 25 per cent deposit, the bank offers a 4.85 per cent discount. For existing and new borrowers who have at least a 5 per cent deposit, the bank offers discounts of between 4.3 per cent and 0.8 per cent for one to five years.

Scottish Amicable is launching a personal equity plan that offers a guaranteed annual income of 7.5 per cent. If you open a further Pep in the next tax year, to make a total £12,000 investment, this rises to 7.65 per cent. The rate is fixed until December 31, 2000, when the full return of the initial investment is guaranteed.

Standard Life is scrapping the initial charge on its Global and Income Advantage unit trusts, a reduction of 5.5 per cent.

Portman Building Society is increasing the rate of return on its instant access account to 5.2 per cent per annum.

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	1st Class Acc	Postal	£1,000	6.20	Yl
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.25	Yly
Britannia BS 01538 391741	Capital Trust	Postal	£10,000	6.50	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Market Harborough BS 01858463244	AnniversaryBond	31.3.97	£1,000	8.60	F/Yly
Woolwich BS 0800 400900	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£500	8.50	F/Yly
Cooperative Bank 0800 125100	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£2,000	9.25	OM
Bristol & West BS 0117 9294271	Fixed Rate Bond	5yr bond	£5,000	8.70	F/Mly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500		5 year	£6,900	9.00	F/Yly
Hinckley & Rugby BS 01455 251234		5 year	£3,000 A	7.65	Yly
Market Harborough BS 01858 463244		5 year	£9,000	7.75	Yly
Dunfermline BS 01383 627727		5 year	£3,000	7.50	Yly

MORTGAGE BEST BUYS

	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 01702 349393	MasterCard	1.14%	14.50%	Nil C
Alliance & Leicester 0500 900250	Visa	1.375%	18.90%	£10 E

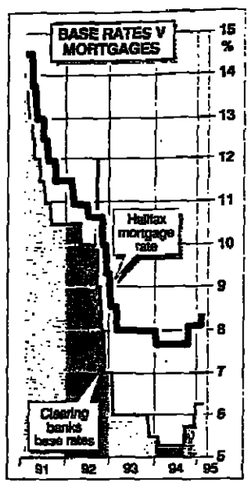
£? BEST BUYS

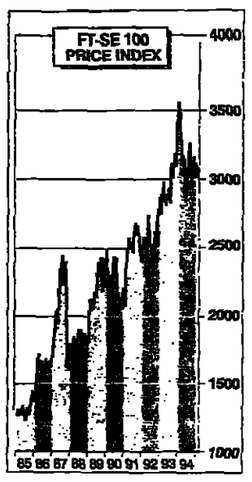
	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Clydesdale Bank 0141 223 2216	16.20%	£113.94	£103.33
Midland Bank 0345 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
N&P BS 0800 808080	15.50%	£118.22	£103.29
Abbey National 01908 680140	16.90%	£117.41	£105.05

Nb. A - Feeder account required, in the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged per annum E = Annual fee waived for 1st year for new accounts F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable); OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 665)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	At tax rates 40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000		01416494555
Investment A/c[*,s]	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-500	1mth	01416494555
Income Bond[*,s]	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	01253766151
First Opt Bond[s]	8.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		01416362558
42nd Issue Cert†[2s]	5.85			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Yearly Plan†[s]	5.85			20-400/mth	14day	01913864900
Children's Bond†	7.86			25-1,000	1mth	01416362635
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bonds[s]	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	01416362603
8th Index Linked†[s]	3.00			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Pensnrs Bond S2[s]	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000[s]	60day	01253766151

[1] first £70 (£140 JJ of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 [*] Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free [s]Rates gross and vble [2]Guaranteed when held for 5 years [3]3% net bonus for £20,000 – £40,000 jt in addition to S1 holdings [4]Taxable but cred in full.

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Equit Life	Level	£10,970	£12,004	£13,330
Comm Union	Level	£10,412	£11,682	£13,342
Can Life	Level	£10,628	£11,780	£13,344
Prudential	Level	£10,672	£11,882	£13,034
Generali	Level	£10,692	£11,706	£13,032
SINGLE LIFE	**Female:**	**Age 60**	**Age 65**	**Age 70**
Nor Union	Level	£9,922	£10,641	£11,741
Equitable	Level	£9,933	£10,743	£11,862
Can Life	Level	£9,813	£10,635	£11,847
Generali	Level	£9,805	£10,636	£11,792
Prudential	Level	£9,814	£10,538	£11,606
JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	**Male: Female:**	**Age 60 Age 55**	**Age 65 Age 60**	**Age 70 Age 65**
Nrwch Uni	Lev	£9,606	£10,143	£10,924
Equitable	Level	£9,549	£10,163	£11,008
Can Life	Level	£9,410	£10,052	£10,968
Prudential	Level	£9,645	£10,067	£10,906
Generali	Level	£9,463	£10,067	£10,906

Source: Annuity Direct (071 375 1175)

Compiled by: Morag Preston

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME
Rates as at March 1, 1995

	Investment (£)	Company	Stadard Rate (%)
1 Year	1,000	Premium Life	5.50
	5,000	AIG Life	6.00
	10,000	AIG Life	6.20
	20,000	AIG life	6.30
	50,000	AIG Life	6.35
	100,000	AIG Life	6.40
	250,000	AIG Life	6.45
2 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.30
	5,000	AIG Life	6.60
	10,000	AIG life	6.80
	20,000	AIG Life	7.00
	50,000	AIG Life	7.05
	100,000	AIG Life	7.10
	250,000	AIG Life	7.15
3 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.40
	5,000	AIG Life	6.45
	10,000	AIG Life	6.55
	20,000	AIG Life	6.65
	50,000	AIG Life	6.75
	100,000	AIG Life	6.80
	250,000	AIG Life	6.85
4 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.50
	50,000	Gan Life	6.60
5 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.60
	5,000	Scottish Widows	7.40

Source: Chamberlain de Broë 01225 483636. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Vary terms. Monthly income may be available.

GILTS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	89.50	10.527	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	113.25	10.288	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	125.25	10.359	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	127.50	10.531	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	123.50	10.506	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	117.50	10.186	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	115.00	10.596	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	104.75	11.271	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	88.50	9.943	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	118.75	10.127	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	136.75	10.000	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	126.50	10.615	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	102.375	10.552	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	121.25	10.412	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	121.25	10.499	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	122.00	10.575	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
First National	8.9875%	101.00	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	8.8854%	102.75	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source. Hoare Govett - 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bradford & Bingley 0800 252 993	3.15	£15k+	75	5.3% discount for 12 months
Britannia 0800 526350	3.15	£40k+	80	5.29% discount to 2.1.96
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.5.96
Banks				
Abbey National Local branch	3.49	£60k+	60	4.75% discount to 29.2.96
NatWest Home Loans 0121 234 8013	3.60	£120k+	75	4.75% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.95	£30-100k	90	6.50% disc-12 mnths
Hinckley & Rugby 0455 251234	1.50	to £150k	60	Rate fixed to 1.1.96
Yorkshire 0274 740740	1.44	£25-£150k	95	7% disc-6 mnths 3% disc-6 mnths
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 0734 510100	3.40	£20-210k	90	5.10% discount to 1.4.96
HYPO - MSL 0344 394000	2.90	£100-£500k	90	5.59% discount to 1.3.96

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Britannia 0800 526350	2.90	to £100k	80	5.45% to 2.1.96
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.50	£35-£150k	95	6.95%-6 months 2% for 1 year
Skipton 0800 590545	2.24	to £150k	95	6%-5 months then 1.75% for 1 year
Banks				
B of Scotland 0132 556 8555	3.94	£15k-150k	95	4.50% discount to 31.1.96
Lloyds Local Branch	3.60	£60K+	95	4.75% for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Bisy's Guides Ltd. Further information: Bisy's Guides, 01753 880482.

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UNIT AND INVESTMENT TRUST INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE
Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 0171 538 8888

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	444.10	470.00	- 2.40	...
UK Equity	536.40	568.80	- 2.80	...
Property	468.30	516.80	+ 0.50	...
Fixed Interest	312.70	331.00	- 1.20	...
Money	352.60	367.40	...	...
International	357.10	377.90	- 5.60	...

ABBEY LIFE
Heidenkamm Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292575

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fd Inc	280.30	295.0	+ 1.10	...
-do- Acc	529.40	557.30	+ 2.10	...
Equity Fd Inc	162.10	170.70	- 0.10	0.0
-do- Acc	216.10	227.50	- 0.30	0.0
Selective Fd	483.60	509.10	+ 0.20	0.0
Money Fd	380.90	401.0	+ 0.20	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	412.70	434.30	+ 1.70	...
Equity Ser 4	209.00	220.10	+ 0.20	...
Man Ser 4	641.00	674.80	- 2.10	0.0
Conv Ser 4	331.10	348.60	+ 0.20	...
Money Ser 4	330.80	348.20	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	343.50	361.60	+ 0.80	0.0
American Ser 4	478.70	503.90	- 3.70	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	654.40	688.90	- 3.40	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	207.40	218.40	- 0.30	0.0
Japan Ser 4	327.50	344.80	+ 0.10	0.0

ALBANY LIFE
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42341

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Fd Acc	£14.70	£15.48	- 6.60	...
European Fd Acc	357.20	[illegible].00	- 4.50	...
Fixed Int Acc	4[illegible].[illegible]	30	+ 2.20	...
Gtd Money Acc	317.50	355.20	+ 0.10	...
Intl Managed Acc	571.20	601.30	- 7.00	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	330.20	347.60	+ 0.30	...
Japan Fund	235.60	248.00	+ 3.30	...
N American Acc	310.30	326.60	- 3.00	...
Prop Fd Acc	447.20	470.70	+ 0.50	...
Multiple Inv Acc	981.70	£103.33	- 3.80	...

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE
Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fxd Int Dep Acc	375.50	395.30	+ 0.20	...
Equity Acc	£13.41	£14.12	+ 1.50	...
Property Acc	584.80	615.60	- 0.80	...
Far East Acc	288.80	304.00	- 0.50	...
Managed Capital	506.50	533.20	+ 0.30	...
-do- Acc	£10.47	£10.97	+ 0.60	...
Overseas Acc	889.60	936.50	+ 0.20	...
Gilt Edged Acc	476.20	501.30	+ 0.80	...
Amer Equity Acc	767.50	807.90	+ 3.70	...
Amer Man Acc	327.10	344.40	+ 1.50	...
Amer Prop Acc	115.30	121.40	+ 0.10	...

AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 443463

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Reserve Ser 6	157.00	165.20	- 1.00	...
Balnd Ser 6	688.50	724.70	- 1.70	...
Opportunity Ser 6	154.40	162.50	...	...
Distribution Ser 6	95.60	100.60	- 0.30	7.39
UK Equities Ser 6	937.00	986.30	+ 1.30	...
Higher Inv Ser 6	£10.10	£10.63	+ 3.20	...
North Amer Ser 6	441.30	464.50	+ 0.80	...
Far East Ser 6	528.40	556.20	+ 2.80	...
Europe Ser 6	363.20	382.30	- 0.90	...
Intnl Ser 6	535.10	563.30	- 0.60	...
Property Ser 6	559.20	587.50	- 2.60	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	431.10	453.70	+ 1.00	...
Ind-Linkd Sec 86	177.40	186.70	- 0.30	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	298.50	314.20	...	...

BARCLAYS LIFE
252 Romford Road, London E7 9HB 0181 534 5544

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Acc	801.30	843.50	- 3.00	...
-do- Initial	534.60	562.30	- 2.00	...
Gilt Edged Acc	375.40	395.20	+ 1.50	...
-do- Initial	248.00	261.10	+ 1.00	...
International Acc	375.90	395.70	- 2.10	...
-do- Initial	246.10	259.70	- 1.40	...
Managed Acc	499.60	525.90	- 1.70	...
-do- Initial	329.00	346.40	- 1.10	...
Money Acc	292.50	309.00	+ 0.30	...
Property Acc	306.40	322.60	+ 0.30	...
-do- Initial	200.80	211.40	+ 0.10	...
America Acc	265.40	279.40	- 4.30	...
Australia Acc	194.00	204.20	- 4.50	...
Financial Acc	311.00	328.40	- 1.80	...
500 Accum	430.70	453.40	- 2.30	...
Japan Gemi Acc	303.80	319.80	+ 4.10	...
Income Acc	486.80	514.60	- 2.70	...
Leisure Acc	214.60	225.90	+ 0.60	...
Special Sits Acc	222.90	234.70	+ 0.10	...
Unity Tech Acc	148.80	156.70	+ 0.10	...

BLACK HORSE LIFE
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
The Managed Fd	772.86	772.86	- 0.03	...
Income Fund	731.63	770.14	- 3.16	...
Equity Income	662.74	697.63	- 2.74	...
Worldwide Gth	459.22	483.39	+ 1.47	...
Balanced Fund	637.87	671.45	- 0.08	...
Smllr Cos Recov	650.42	684.66	- 1.25	...
N Amer & Genrl	339.63	357.72	- 0.15	...
Pacific Basin	397.35	418.27	+11.10	...
German Growth	298.28	251.89	+ 2.89	...
Japan Growth	163.83	172.14	- 0.28	...
The UK Gth Fd	200.34	210.89	- 0.21	...
Consl Euro Gth	130.52	137.39	+ 0.55	...
Property Fund	414.19	435.99	- 0.65	...
Fixed Interest	301.66	317.57	+ 3.42	...
Cash Fund	285.43	300.46	+ 0.24	...
Managed Inv	467.60	492.22	- 0.06	...
Nth Amer Recov	227.74	239.73	+ 1.49	...
Abbrgc Fund				...
Managed Gth	495.54	521.63	+ 0.18	...

BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE
PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 01475 396800

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Monitored Port	151.70	160.90	- 0.70	...
Performance Plus	149.80	158.50	- 0.60	...
With Profit Port	173.40	183.40	+ 0.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	168.30	178.00	- 0.90	...
Euro Opportunity	212.60	224.90	- 2.90	...
North Amer Opp	159.70	168.90	...	...
Far East Opp	172.80	182.80	- 0.40	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	125.80	132.50	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	182.70	193.30	- 0.50	...
Fixed Int	185.50	196.20	...	...
Cash	157.50	166.60	...	...
Overseas	172.60	182.60	- 0.80	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	316.60	333.30	+ 0.10	...
UK Equity	526.20	553.90	- 1.70	...
Property	285.10	300.20	- 0.10	...
Money Market	254.00	267.40	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	326.60	343.80	+ 0.30	...
Japan	330.70	354.50	+ 6.00	...
North America	144.10	151.70	...	...
International	265.50	279.50	- 1.30	...
European	274.00	288.50	- 3.50	...
Far East	119.70	126.00	- 0.40	...

CANADA LIFE
24 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 55122

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Growth	1271.80	...	...	...
Managed	313.20	329.70	- 0.70	...
Property	238.30	250.90	+ 0.30	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	237.20	249.70	+ 0.30	...
Equity	344.80	363.00	- 1.70	...
Cash	211.30	222.50	+ 0.30	...
CLife Euro Mgd	360.60	379.60	- 2.30	...
CLife Intl Fd	334.50	352.20	- 1.50	...

CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE
Seacoy House, 580 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fund	172.90	182.00	- 1.40	...
Managed Fund	572.50	602.70	+ 0.50	...
Equity Fund	325.50	342.70	- 0.40	...

CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
Narrower Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9280566
Assurance Funds

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Sapphire Mixed	253.30	267.70	+ 0.30	...
Ruby	162.40	171.00	- 0.60	...
Emerald	142.60	151.00	+ 0.30	...
Equity	327.00	344.20	- 1.30	...
Property	233.00	245.30	- 0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	199.20	209.70	+ 0.60	...
Indexed Secs	164.80	173.50	- 0.30	...
Cash	158.70	167.10	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	212.10	224.40	- 3.10	...
Far East	295.40	311.20	- 0.90	...
International	226.10	238.00	- 1.50	...
Special Sits	311.80	328.30	- 3.20	...
Intl Income	276.60	291.20	- 1.80	...
American Inc	184.70	194.50	- 3.00	...
European	310.30	326.70	- 1.80	...
Japanese	131.00	137.90	- 0.60	...
Pac Basin	148.50	156.30	- 0.80	...
Property Pens	167.20	176.00	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	302.50	318.50	- 1.30	...
Equity	339.10	378.00	- 2.30	...
Property	213.90	225.20	- 0.40	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	247.20	260.30	- 0.40	...
Indexed Inv	177.30	186.60	- 0.40	...
Cash	152.80	160.80	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	189.70	199.70	+ 0.30	...
Far East	262.10	276.00	- 0.80	...
International	201.70	212.30	- 0.30	...
Pension Index-Link	166.00	174.80	- 0.10	...
Pension Cash	207.30	218.30	+ 0.30	...

CONFEDERATION LIFE
Lyons Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744848

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	£10.65	£11.53	- 6.30	0.0
Equity Fund	£15.74	£16.56	- 6.80	...

CROWN FINANCIAL
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 01483 725033

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Life Managed Acc	367.20	397.10	- 2.60	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	305.20	324.40	- 0.10	...
Life Equity Acc	791.10	832.70	- 3.00	...
Life Money Acc	303.30	319.20	+ 0.20	...
Life Inv Tst Acc	754.60	794.60	- 5.50	...
Life Intl Acc	468.80	494.50	- 1.60	...
Life High Inc Acc	788.10	808.90	- 3.20	...
Life Property Acc	258.60	272.20	- 1.30	...
Crown Intl Inv A	£13.10	...	...	...
Crown Equity	664.60	699.50	- 20.20	...

EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Secure Fund	176.90	186.30	+ 0.20	...
Managed Fund	226.70	238.70	- 0.80	...
-do- Series 2	148.40	156.60	- 0.60	...
Adventurous Fd	179.30	188.80	- 0.90	...
-do- Series 2	137.50	144.80	- 0.70	...
Equity Mngd Fd	228.30	240.40	- 1.20	...
-do- Series 2	151.40	159.40	- 0.80	...
UK Prst Fund Int	138.40	145.70	+ 0.50	...
UK Equity Fund	153.20	161.30	- 0.30	...
Property Fund	121.60	128.10	- 0.10	...
Envrnmntl Opps	153.90	162.10	+ 0.50	...
Euro Fund	152.40	160.50	+ 0.40	...
North Amer Fd	184.50	194.30	- 1.00	...
Oriental Opp	215.10	226.50	- 3.10	...
Japanese Fund	115.10	121.20	+ 0.90	...
Bd & West Life	125.10	131.70	+ 0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	141.60	149.10	+ 0.20	...

EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 928 1111
Eagle/Mid Uts 244.80 253.70 - 1.10 3.61

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed (Mdbd)	291.00	306.40	- 0.60	...
Managed	284.30	299.30	- 0.60	...
Stewardship	325.90	342.70	- 0.60	...
Overseas Equity	265.60	279.60	- 1.60	...
North American	143.70	151.30	- 1.80	...
Pacific Basin	151.20	159.20	- 1.30	...
European	212.10	223.30	- 1.30	...
Property	204.10	214.90	- 0.70	...
Fixed Interest	227.40	239.40	+ 1.20	...
Index Linked	163.90	172.60	- 0.20	...
Cash	202.20	212.90	+ 0.10	...
FF Life Assurance ex-MM				
Fixed Interest	524.80	552.40	...	...
Managed	668.70	703.80	- 1.30	...
Deposit	347.10	365.30	+ 0.30	...
Property	487.40	513.10	- 0.70	...
American	410.20	431.70	- 4.80	...
Australian	476.10	501.10	- 6.90	...
European	513.60	540.60	- 5.40	...
Income Acc	724.60	762.70	- 1.80	...
-do- Dist	383.70	403.90	+ 0.80	5.47
International	282.70	308.10	- 2.60	...
Japan Smaller	466.70	491.20	+ 5.70	...
Singapore & Mal	370.40	389.80	- 0.90	...
Smaller Cos	501.20	527.60	- 1.30	...
Tokyo Fund	636.70	670.20	+ 4.00	...
UK Equity	360.20	389.60	- 0.60	...
CCM Managed Mg	712.70	750.20	- 0.70	...

GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD
Allans Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
GT Plan Far East	289.50	315.30	+ 1.30	...
GT Plan Worldw	449.50	473.20	- 4.80	...

GAN LIFE & PENSIONS
Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2BW. 01279 626262

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Portfolio Acc	657.30	657.30	- 1.70	...
-do- Inv A	657.20	691.90	- 1.70	...
UK Equity	389.90	410.50	+ 0.10	...
Gth Plus	197.40	208.50	+ 0.80	...
Managed	291.90	307.40	- 0.70	...

GENERAL ACCIDENT
2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 629822

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	141.00	211.60	- 0.90	...
Unitised Profit	138.80	146.00	+ 0.30	...
UK Equity	268.70	282.80	- 0.30	...
Fixed Int	189.00	198.90	+ 0.60	...
Indexed Linked	168.60	177.50	+ 0.30	...
Cash Deposit	175.50	184.70	+ 0.20	...
Property	193.00	203.00	- 0.10	...
International	165.60	174.30	- 0.60	...
American	154.30	162.30	- 1.60	...
Japan	224.10	235.80	+ 1.50	...
Japan Smllr Cos	229.40	241.40	+ 1.50	...
European	176.90	186.10	- 0.90	...
Pacific Fund	263.40	276.10	- 4.70	...
Conv Life	120.90	127.20	...	...

For General Portfolio see Can

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE
Royal Exchange, London EC3. 0171 283 7101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Abs Prop Bds	423.00	457.30	+ 4.70	...
Managed Initial	432.00	455.10	- 0.90	...
-do- Acc	619.80	652.52	- 1.30	...
Equity Initial	641.80	675.40	- 0.60	...
-do- Acc	920.00	968.40	- 0.80	...
Fixed Int Initial	450.20	482.90	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	634.80	649.40	- 1.50	...
Intl Initial	423.30	445.60		

THE TIMES WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Insurance could provide the answer on pension benefits for ex-wives

From Mr Peter Young
Sir, The solution to the controversial issue of pension benefits for former wives is really quite simple. The problem is that when the man dies, the ex-wife does not receive income of the level received under a divorce settlement.

When I was divorced in 1987, in addition to giving my ex-wife 80 per cent of the house sale proceeds to recognise this matter, it was laid down that I should take out sufficient with-profits life insurance to provide a lump sum for my ex-wife of sufficient size so that when invested the interest generated would equal existing maintenance payments. Although aged 52 at that time and although the maintenance payments were generous, the cost of the appropriate insurance was not excessive. Admittedly it does nor take into account inflation, but then nor do maintenance payments.

Therefore, all that the Government need do is pass a straightforward law that in all separation/divorce settlements the husband should take out appropriate insurance, as in my example.
Yours sincerely,
PETER YOUNG,
16 Oken Court,
Warwick.



Being in control over gas bills

From Mr D. M. Harrison,
Sir, I write with regard to Richard Gilbert's informative article in Weekend Money (February 18). Having had two payments taken in January, one duplicate with an incorrect (larger amount), I wrote to British Gas on January 17.

I have heard nothing further than an acknowledgement, on February 1. However, another incorrect debit was taken on February 3 and I have received a statement, dated February 6, which shows a balance of £185 in credit after the heaviest quarter's usage of the year.

Your readers may be interested to know that the banks are very concerned that the image of the direct-debit system should not be further tarnished and are prepared to back out incorrect debits, credit the customer's account immediately, and recover the money from the supplier.

I would suggest that British Gas customers should make the arrangement with their own bank and then advise British Gas of their action, and the bank charges plus other costs to be credited to their gas account.
MICHAEL HARRISON,
24 Station Road
Beaconsfield
Buckinghamshire.

Terms of reference

From Mr R. R. Curtis
Sir, I recently had cause to take up references on applicants for an assured shorthold tenancy of a property I own; to do this I wrote to the applicants' employers, their existing landlords and their banks. All of the non-banking referees responded promptly and without demure but the banks, Lloyds and Barclays, replied that they needed the applicant's permission before they would provide me with a reference together with an £8 fee. No doubt this "service" to their clients contributes to the major clearing banks' recently declared profits in excess of £1 billion.
Yours faithfully,
R. R. CURTIS,
21 Whitehill Court,
Berkhamstead, Herts.

Trying to push water uphill

From Mr David Lindsay
Sir, Are we not trying to push water uphill? The market will settle the right pay levels if allowed to do so. If it is not, the people we most need will exercise their right of free movement.

What we should, however, be looking at is whether our high earners are paying a fair level of income tax and NICs. Is is right, for example that high earners should be allowed to put a lot more, tax free, into a pension fund than may lower earners (when, for example, the amount of capital gains that we can enjoy, tax free, is the same for all — as is the amount we can put into Peps or Tessas, or borrow on mortgage with tax deductible interest)?

Likewise, is it right that low earners should have to pay a higher proportion of their earnings in NICs than do those earning over the upper earnings limit of £22,360 pa? Were this limit abolished, state pension age could now be equalised at 60 — which is about the age at which most people are now retiring.

Let us not deny high earners their just deserts, but let us ensure they pay their just taxes on their earnings.
Yours faithfully,
DAVID LINDSAY,
36 Orchard Coombe,
Whitchurch Hill,
Reading.

Going over the limit

From Mr Andrew Graham
Sir, At least A. Gerrard was even permitted by the Nationwide Building Society to exceed his overdraft limit (Letters, February 25).

In my case, having refused to pay a monthly direct debit payment of £29.60 on the grounds that it would take me over my overdraft limit, the society "fined" me £25, which had the selfsame effect. I now await the £10 and the increased interest charge. Given the penalty for exceeding an overdraft limit, I cannot fathom why my direct debit could not be paid except that it offered a golden opportunity to make money at a rate of some 14 per cent per day. I suspect too that the computer has now taken over and makes all the "decisions", while the human element simply sign the letters as they appear automatically.
Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GRAHAM,
Risborough House,
Pond Hill Road,
Shorncliffe, Kent.


UK nationals are free to pick anywhere within the European economic area

Working overseas — if fortune calls

Opportunities abroad are rising — not just in the Far East, says Ian Hunter

Nick Leeson, Barings' rogue broker, was not alone. Many UK nationals have chosen to work overseas, but not all have made such a name for themselves.

Opportunities overseas are on the increase, and not just in Singapore. UK nationals can work freely anywhere within the European economic area (EEA). This zone consists of the 15 EU states, together with Norway and Iceland. Workers may still, however, have to register their presence with the police on arrival.

Employment in the United States is more regulated. Many UK nationals enter under the L1 visa that permits the temporary transfer of specialised employees to the United States for up to two years. Such employees must normally have worked for their employer for at least a year prior to transfer.

Another route into the US is by way of the prized green card. This document confers residency and the right to work. Green card applicants usually need to show that they have good employment prospects, and if possible, family ties in America. Sponsorship by both a prospective employer and a US citizen is usually required.

Australia is another popular destination. Temporary work visas are available. The young have added advantages. Those between 18 and 25 may apply for a working holiday visa, costing £71. Applicants must produce a return air ticket together with funds of at least £2,000. The maximum stay allowed is one year, during which time the applicant must not work for any one employer for more than three months. Those between the ages of 26 and 30 are also eligible for this category of visa under certain conditions.

Careful tax planning is also a must. Such employees fall into two categories for tax purposes — resident and non-resident. If Mr Leeson had worked full-time abroad for at least a complete tax year (April 6 in one year and April 5 in the following year) and had carried out all his duties abroad he would not be treated as resident for tax purposes, provided he did not visit the UK for more than an average of 91 days in any year. If Mr Leeson had satisfied these conditions he would not be liable for UK tax on his earnings.

Alternatively, if Mr Leeson was not out of the UK for a complete tax year, he would be able to take advantage of an alternative tax concession — the 365-day relief. This is available to those who remain resident in the UK for tax purposes, but are out of the country for 365 days.

Within this period, people can spend up to a sixth of their time in the UK, subject to a maximum of 62 consecutive days on any one visit. Anyone who qualified for this relief and returned home permanently before the 365-day qualifying period was over, would lose the relief.

UK tax is still payable on earnings from other sources, such as UK share dividends, or building society interest. However, unlike those who are treated as being non-resident, taxpayers on 365-day relief can set their personal allowances against such tax.

Those working abroad in a large number of countries, including the US, Australia and Singapore have an additional advantage.

The UK has entered into a number of double-tax treaties. Under these arrangements, each country agrees to give up, or reduce, its tax in certain circumstances, to avoid individuals having to pay tax on earnings in two different countries. Even where no treaty exists, relief from UK tax will generally be available on any foreign tax paid by UK residents.

Under the dual treaty arrangement, individuals who are sent to America by a UK employer, with no permanent home there are exempt from paying federal taxes, provided they do not stay for more than 183 days in the relevant US tax year (January 1-December 31). The exemption applies only to federal taxes, not state dues.

The payment of tax is not the only area of international agreement. Many countries including members of the EEA, Australia and the United States, have entered into reciprocal agreements regarding social security contributions and benefits. The UK-US Social Security Treaty provides that those working in the United States for a UK employer may continue to pay only UK contributions, provided the stay does not exceed five years.

Those working in Australia can continue to make contributions for up to three years after leaving in order to safeguard entitlements, such as the basic retirement pension. UK employers must pay National Insurance contributions, in respect of employees during the first year of a secondment to Australia.

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Gradual Fixed Int	107.10	111.09		2.70
Gradual Gth	72.81	75.09	+ 0.35	0.00
Gradual Japan	152.60	161.50	+ 1.10	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 563 231				
General Acc	511.20	543.90	+ 0.70	3.00
General Inc	458.60	479.60	+ 0.50	3.00
UK Growth Acc	344.60	366.70	+ 0.20	3.06
UK Growth Inc	295.66	314.60	+ 0.10	3.06
Higher Inc Acc	650.00	691.50	+ 0.10	4.16
Higher Inc Inc	575.70	598.70	+ 3.00	4.16
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	194.60	194.30†	+ 0.70	6.01
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	97.19	92.10†	+ 2.05	6.01
Nth America	299.90	276.50	– 1.90	
Far East	517.20	537.50	– 1.50	0.59
Europe	264.40	281.30	+ 2.00	0.05
Bdl Equity	69.41	72.78	+ 0.12	3.25
Bdl Fxdholds Acc	99.70	105.00	+ 0.00	4.67
Bdl Fxdholds Inc	72.35	76.57	+ 0.40	4.67
Gilts/Fxd Opps	78.77	84.87	+ 0.08	6.57
Reference Acc	51.92	55.59†	+ 0.05	5.21
Reference Inc	50.09	53.10†	+ 0.04	5.21
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	126.40	133.10†	– 1.00	6.02
High Inc Equity	152.70	160.30	– 1.20	4.62
Worldwide Bond	261.00	277.30†	+ 0.10	5.48
Capital Growth				
American Growth	272.20	291.30	– 3.00	.92
Asian Pacific	280.00	299.50	– 4.30	
Assets & Earnings	245.70	261.40	– 0.52	3.07
Country & Energy	92.50	98.02†	– 3.60	.13
Euro Capital Inc	127.50	136.40	– 1.60	.71
(Accum Units)	134.80	143.60	– 1.70	.71
General	216.70	230.50†	+ 0.20	2.50
Japan	119.80	118.30	+ 0.10	
Mainstream	131.30	140.40	– 0.70	1.86
UK Growth Dist	169.70	177.30	– 1.70	3.19
UK Emerging Cos	345.70	368.50	– 4.10	
Income & Growth	369.66	397.10	– 0.50	3.23
Select	63.69	67.76	– 0.02	3.17
Investment	165.60	172.50†	– 1.10	1.65
Dividend & Growth	57.69	60.67	– 0.11	4.65
Global Bnds & Sec	66.42	70.84	+ 0.07	2.56
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	216.09	216.69	– 7.00	
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 388				
Asset Inc & Growth	42.68	44.69	– 0.52	0.65
Cash	93.82	98.62†	– 0.47	5.65
Emerging Mkts	61.67	65.47	– 0.74	0.65
Emerging	168.50	111.70†	– 1.60	
Exempt	911.40	961.60	– 12.10	1.99
Extra Income ⊕	44.41	47.02†	– 1.14	6.55
Far East Emrg Eco	145.40	153.20	– 0.60	0.59
Fixed Interest ⊕	21.93	23.09†	– 0.63	6.98
Fixed Inv Tst	157.80	166.00	– 0.30	1.01
Income	169.60	167.60		
Latin American	42.95	45.09	– 2.04	1.08
Pacific	64.17	67.57	– 1.37	0.38
Property Shares	59.74	62.71	– 0.28	2.10
UK Emerging Cos	60.57	62.54	– 0.62	1.80
UK Growth	41.76	44.53	– 0.21	2.61
Wor World Post ⊕	66.20	69.31	– 0.36	2.61
Global	59.44	62.40	– 0.44	2.82
Aberdeen Gilt Inc ⊕	48.58	48.58†	– 0.08	7.72
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS PLC				
0131 648 2332				
British Growth	65.36	68.54†	– 0.30	3.60
British Income	76.61	80.66†	– 0.15	3.79
Select Portfolio	88.24	85.36†	– 0.29	
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	70.32	74.81†	– 0.22	2.81
Income Builder Inc	64.63	68.76	– 0.10	3.09
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	214.50	229.90	– 1.80	3.40
Capital	377.10	403.10	– 2.60	2.25
Balanced	626.00	671.30†	– 5.00	2.66
Accumulator	211.69	212.49	– 0.89	3.25
Income Trusts				
American Income	45.68	48.60†	– 1.18	3.65
High Income	360.40	386.00†	– 2.70	4.61
Equity Income	205.80	220.00	– 1.20	3.70
High Yield	222.20	237.50	– 0.60	3.66
Gilt Securities	32.50	34.42†	+ 0.07	6.18
International Trusts				
Asset Spec Sits	138.60	145.20	– 3.20	0.47
European Growth	32.56	34.75	– 0.39	0.01
International	146.30	156.30†	– 2.60	0.21
Japan	184.80	198.60†	+ 0.50	0.01
Pacific	345.70	369.50	– 4.10	0.21
Stock of America	403.80	429.50†	– 12.60	0.54
Weekly Asset Val	44.41	47.47	– 0.81	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	462.80	515.80†	– 2.20	2.47
Cover & Gilt	42.80	45.80†	+ 0.10	5.39
Smaller Cos	156.90	167.70	– 1.40	1.52
2nd Smaller Cos	148.80	159.00†	– 3.20	1.53
Recovery	127.20	135.90	– 0.70	1.98
Mkt Mkr & City	184.50	143.70	– 1.70	0.63
Dbent Earnings	323.10	345.30†	– 0.40	1.55
Technology	153.00	163.50	– 2.90	0.81
UK Special Sits	415.50	445.00†	+ 0.40	1.53
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01203 559 911				
Cntrcal Dst Pens	94.86	99.55	– 0.71	3.84
Franklin Pncpl Pens	59.57	61.89	– 0.33	
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0888				
Capital	68.85	71.22	– 0.10	1.97
International	69.47	64.23	+ 0.24	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4262				
America	265.20	286.30	– 4.50	
Bond	108.90	114.70†	+ 0.20	7.25
Bnf Swtr Cos	91.73	97.59†	– 0.70	1.92
Core & Gen ⊕	61.54	65.47†	– 0.52	5.76
Europe	209.80	222.30	– 2.30	0.64
Exm Swtr Cos	84.83	191.09	– 1.40	0.62
Income Gwth	324.40	345.10†	– 3.50	4.60
Japan	282.50	299.70	+ 6.60	
Latin American	54.74	58.52	– 4.44	
Pacific	95.57	102.10	– 1.70	1.52
UK Swtr Cos	49.86	52.83†	+ 0.10	1.44
Japan Fd	635.69	651.50†	+ 5.30	
Mngd Fd	163.20	172.60†	– 0.40	3.25
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 469 0573				
Bdl & Opptr	266.50	280.60	– 2.80	1.32
Capital Gwth	105.40	111.00	– 0.20	2.42
Worldw Opps	160.30	170.30	– 1.70	0.45
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0191 834 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bal Inv Fd Inc	321.00	335.30	– 1.30	3.25
European Bd Inc	98.96	90.09†	– 0.24	7.85
General	69.82	73.58	– 0.71	4.54
Financial	69.35	74.18	– 0.62	3.02
500.0	410.30	438.80†	– 2.80	2.75
General	255.60	274.00	– 1.20	2.85
Property	240.20	257.30		5.00
Treasur	167.90	179.80	– 0.70	2.85
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	160.70	160.70	+ 0.10	5.83
Extra Income	118.60	118.60	+ 0.60	4.56
Gilt & Fxd Int	85.54	87.40†	+ 0.65	5.96
Income	483.30	516.50†	– 2.80	4.42
Income Builder	57.84	61.84†	– 0.91	6.29
Intl Income	39.69	41.73	– 0.57	4.0
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	109.20	116.50†	– 0.60	2.88
Lehman	112.60	120.50	+ 0.10	1.71
Recovery	383.70	410.30	– 1.60	3.08
Smlr Cos Inc	40.62	43.80	– 0.08	2.15
Special Sits	264.70	279.50	– 0.20	1.76
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	128.46	127.80	– 2.40	0.07
Asst Acc	223.20	237.60	– 3.00	2.36
Asst Inc	157.40	148.10	– 2.10	2.38
Euro Gwth Inc	141.10	148.80	– 1.20	1.84
(Accum Units)	151.80	160.20	– 2.10	1.84
Japan & Gen Inc	155.80	165.00†	+ 2.10	
(Accum Units)	157.80	166.50†	+ 2.20	
Japan Spec Sits	71.71	75.65	+ 1.43	
Dlly Tech Inc	74.89	78.97	– 0.02	1.62
Worldwide	134.10	163.80	– 1.40	1.05
BARING FD MGRS LTD (DEALING SUSPENDED)				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	87.34	92.08	– 1.41	
Asia Growth Cos	124.30	133.20	– 1.70	
Continental	59.28	56.58	– 0.13	5.70
Europe	244.90	264.60	– 1.60	0.10
Equity Income	81.84	86.30	– 0.48	4.80
European Growth	284.20	301.50	– 2.80	0.20
Europe	210.30	223.50	– 1.20	0.20
Extended Growth	73.10	77.46	– 0.66	0.50
Global Bond	90.76	93.69†		6.26
Global Growth	116.80	122.70	– 0.60	
Japan Growth	182.80	194.60	– 2.90	
Japan Smaller	135.60	164.70	– 0.50	
Value Trust	78.20	77.17	+ 0.53	
Portfolio	120.60	129.20†	+ 0.60	
Recovery (Unit)	221.70	235.70	– 1.10	1.80
UK Growth	77.80	83.27	– 0.42	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	76.15	83.21	– 2.26	1.89
Select Managers	66.67	74.57	– 0.37	1.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3000				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	69.07	73.49†	+ 0.23	
Special Opptr Inc	49.93	52.44†	+ 0.26	
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	98.46	104.10	– 0.52	1.97
(Accum Units)	110.60	117.10	– 0.57	1.97
Cautious Mgd	94.36	99.74	– 0.77	1.28
Higher Yield ⊕	41.64	44.26	– 0.07	4.76
American Gth Inc	69.13	73.15†	+ 0.04	
European Growth	127.80	135.50†	– 2.10	
(Accum Units)	130.41	138.00	– 2.13	
Global Bond Inc ⊕	27.12	27.12	– 0.05	8.29
Mngd Pfolio Inc	50.65	41.94	– 0.16	1.54
(Accum Units)	30.64	41.60	– 0.19	1.54
Int Spec Opps	104.60	110.90	– 0.65	
Pacific Gwth	112.86	119.46	– 0.31	
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 489 7210				
Shrd Dstny Gth	62.07	62.80†	– 2.96	6.51
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 3000				
Balnce	145.70	155.70	– 0.80	1.83
UK Growth	155.70	165.70†	– 0.50	2.56
UK Income	125.40	133.50	– 0.40	4.85
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01737 861 122				
Can Gen Dist	172.90	183.70†	– 2.30	2.16
⇒ Income Dist	163.40	108.60	– 1.50	4.59
(Accum Units)	312.06	330.80	– 4.40	4.59
Gilt & Fxd Int	36.59	40.80†	+ 0.11	6.85
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 236 5566 Exp 0161 228 5865 Dlg 0161 228 8082				
American & Gen	145.30	154.00	– 2.80	
European Inc	73.54	77.84	– 1.24	0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	74.62	79.00†	– 1.28	2.23
Growth	391.40	415.40†	+ 0.30	2.73
Income & Growth	378.10	402.20†	– 1.00	4.26
(Accum Units)	539.50	574.00	– 1.50	4.26
Japan & Gen	84.97	88.32	+ 1.02	
Master Portfolio	694.66	698.62†	– 42.66	2.25
(Accum Units)	1113.25	1177.65	– 71.19	2.25
Special Sits	69.43	84.14†	– 0.67	2.67
High Yield	212.26	212.84	– 2.66	4.74
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 1000				
Conservative Portfolio	78.40	83.63	– 0.25	2.67
Aggressive Portfolio	88.72	94.58	– 0.41	1.22
European Portfolio	98.16	99.15	– 0.67	0.79
Japanese Portfolio	93.17	61.79†	+ 0.17	
Pacific Portfolio	123.71	126.19	– 1.58	0.55
Intl Inv & Growth	71.74	76.54	– 0.39	1.46
Utility & Bond	59.72	54.32	+ 0.15	7.08
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 565 1615				
Inv Fund	527.75	553.45		4.88
Fxd In Sec	147.85	149.20		5.78
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0177 282 5800				
UK General Tst	58.25	63.01	– 0.24	3.15
COF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
0171 588 1815				
Inc	618.67	625.52		4.96
Accum	536.51	536.50		
Fixed Int Inc	120.20	120.42		8.60
Fixed Int Acc	107.59	107.55		
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
0171 667 7667				
Intl Growth	107.40	117.67	– 1.05	
UK Income	99.07	108.65	+ 1.32	5.50
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 497 0966				
Dealers Intl	75.76	80.50	+ 1.71	1.50
Accm Ethical Tst	144.02	151.66	– 0.76	0.74
City Fin Assets	62.75	66.78	– 0.05	1.35
City Fin America	63.97	68.28	+ 0.55	
City Fin Intl	78.57	74.29	– 0.28	0.94
City Fin Japan	141.73	149.19	– 3.66	
Friars Rtrn Dep	297.95	276.63†	– 2.45	1.77
Friars Rtrn Inc	161.50	197.25	– 1.13	4.27
Sunday Valid Gth	115.77	123.16†	+ 1.43	0.10
Fidelity Cap Gth	127.6	135.11	– 0.42	
Fidelity Int	128.05	147.94	– 0.36	
City Fin Pfio Inc	51.89	54.35	+ 0.03	4.43
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Advstn: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	48.51	52.85	– 1.34	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 373 393				
American Gwth	54.98	58.80	– 0.73	
Allen Mnyd Gwth	33.81	36.16	– 0.30	0.45
Dragon Growth	81.32	85.66	– 1.12	0.49
Equity High Inc	77.00	81.91†	– 0.97	4.56
(Accum Units)	104.37	110.98	– 1.34	4.56
European Gwth	48.39	51.48	– 0.60	0.97
Evergreen	26.42	28.26	– 0.30	
General Equity	78.16	83.55	– 0.12	3.17
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.09	23.21	+ 0.05	8.20
Japan Growth	46.39	49.41	+ 0.05	
Pacific Gwth	47.11	50.12	– 0.28	2.66
Pref Sec Con Inc	28.48	30.21	– 0.28	1.46
(Accum Units)	29.58	31.38	– 0.29	1.46
Technology Gwth	24.10	25.64	– 0.22	0.24
Specist Sits	33.30	37.55	– 0.35	2.13
UK & Overseas	44.42	47.25	– 0.41	1.48
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 838 000				
Capital	62.32	62.95†	– 4.69	2.36
Income	57.99	61.65†	+ 0.66	4.32
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	147.38	155.77	– 1.08	6.16
Fixed & Convertible	38.53	40.99	– 0.06	7.50
Monthly Inc Plus	45.30	48.25	– 1.84	9.10
Preference Share	45.64	47.92	– 1.17	7.71
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	112.51	120.76	– 2.33	7.72
Managed Fund	68.79	67.66	– 0.67	5.11
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.67	37.95	– 0.52	1.79
Special Sits	40.81	43.41	– 0.57	2.64
UK & Capital	73.57	78.27	+ 0.49	2.63
(Accum Units)	92.69	97.97	+ 0.61	2.63
UK Growth	132.22	140.66	– 1.38	2.42
International Growth Funds				
Europ Growth	176.38	188.66	– 2.57	0.26
Far Eastern Gth	115.41	123.84	– 0.85	
Global Growth	75.78	80.50	– 0.16	0.26
Japan Growth	167.98	114.77	+ 1.66	
North Amer Gth	71.87	76.46	+ 0.16	
Worldwide Growth	60.46	64.35	– 0.46	0.69
COUTTS & CO				
0345 696 969				
American	115.90	123.90	– 2.20	1.41
Commodities ⊕	19.16	20.39†	– 0.32	0.00
Equity Income ⊕	118.60	123.90†	– 1.40	4.58
Emrg Fund	43.46	46.24	– 0.59	1.44
Financial	46.85	49.19	– 0.59	1.74
Growth & Inc ⊕	217.19	230.78†	– 0.70	3.34
High Dist ⊕	143.86	152.86	– 0.40	4.91
International	358.10	372.48	– 1.99	0.13
Int Dis Inc	66.74	69.25	– 0.55	2.97
Latin American	34.65	36.20	– 2.29	
Pacific	71.88	76.17	– 2.61	
Preference Share	38.85	22.15†	– 0.97	7.46
Yellow	199.70	211.10	+ 0.89	1.34
UK Smaller Cos	287.59	298.90	– 1.80	
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	197.80	210.76		1.02
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7281				
Endurance Fd	184.30	196.16	– 0.80	1.86
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01298 431 466				
European	75.46	79.43	– 0.91	1.74
Financial Tst	40.63	42.14	– 0.26	1.47
Far Eastern	295.80	295.80	– 3.94	2.17
High Income	122.80	128.42	– 0.70	5.11
Intl Growth	107.71	113.38	– 2.97	1.40
North American	104.12	108.66	– 2.73	1.47
Pacific	108.58	114.27	– 2.84	0.70
Smaller Cos	63.00	66.32	– 0.43	2.57
Special Sits	81.65	85.93	– 0.49	2.69
Tst of Inv Tsts	168.80	177.47†	– 2.26	1.99
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 497 0966				
Smaller Cos Inc	185.70	195.44	– 3.63	1.51
Smaller Cos Acc	324.93	338.47	– 6.89	1.51
Recovery	45.97	48.93	– 1.01	1.45
Recovery Acc	47.49	48.47	– 1.02	1.45
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Balanced	107.63	114.59	– 0.06	6.07
Capital Growth	74.87	80.29	– 0.84	
Fd of Inv Tsts	41.09	43.65	– 0.55	
High Income ⊕	46.12	49.00	– 0.29	10.70
Interest	47.88	50.85†	– 0.06	
Zero Preference	38.63	39.57	+ 0.01	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 228 707				
Family Asset Tst	72.77	77.47†	+ 0.19	2.84
Family Income Tst	42.49	42.49†	– 2.65	6.51
Family Trust	76.33	80.32†	– 0.34	1.52
United Kingdom	245.60	261.30	– 0.70	3.95
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Dealines: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.00
Cash Fund				
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.58	28.65	+ 0.05	7.84
Intl Bond	27.34	28.36	+ 0.01	5.44
Income Funds				
Extra Income	22.84	24.03†	– 0.23	5.29
Moneybuilder	101.99	108.09†	– 1.06	4.34
Income Plus	44.97	47.39	– 0.94	2.65
Amer Eq Inc	104.37	110.98	– 1.34	4.36
European Income	39.58	42.09†	+ 0.49	1.74
Far East Inc	59.82	63.62	– 0.74	0.59
Global Convertible	21.91	22.74	– 0.04	3.70
UK Dir Gth	22.85	24.10†	– 0.40	2.84
Equity Funds				
ASSIST	85.26	90.62	– 1.86	
American	228.00	242.30	– 3.10	
Amer Spec Sits	108.50	115.30	– 1.40	
Japan Smaller Cos	34.65	36.97†	+ 0.06	
European	158.20	168.30	– 2.10	
European Opps	38.44	83.21	– 0.79	
Global Fin	22.94	24.45	– 0.31	0.66
Global Opps	85.98	89.21	– 1.33	
Global & Inc	121.40	129.00	– 0.40	2.37
Intl PSF	34.19	36.35	– 0.29	
Japan Spec Sits	83.00	85.86†	– 0.51	
Japan	173.49	184.70	+ 3.10	
Managed Intl	254.00	270.00†	– 0.70	
Managed Inc	48.08	52.19	– 0.55	
Recovery	43.58	46.77	– 0.77	
South E Asia	135.60	144.70	– 1.76	
Special Sits	468.50	498.50	+ 1.30	
Specialist Funds				
Core Access Units	108.39	108.59	+ 0.00	5.90
FLEMING PRINCOE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 614 2700				
Balanced ⊕	126.08	128.70†	– 0.80	2.08
Inc Plus ⊕	79.21	83.70†	– 0.65	4.14
Cap Plus	131.59	133.40	– 0.40	1.34
General Opps	214.50	218.30		2.60
Growth Inc	27.97	29.58	– 0.15	1.88
Private Portfolio	370.20	386.80†	+ 1.90	1.36
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Exp 0171 454 1454 Dlg 01277 291 018				
Apex Foreign & Colonial				
European	108.70	112.70	– 1.40	0.63
Hong Kong	153.30	164.80	– 3.60	
High Income	80.35	21.65†	– 0.16	10.39
Gross Income	65.01	51.65	– 0.05	3.52
UK Growth	98.11	102.30	– 0.20	1.88
US Income	35.39	38.00		3.05
US Smaller Cos	286.80	308.70	– 1.30	0.12
FOSTER & BRANTWHAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 9966				
High Inc Equity	44.75	47.06		3.46
Pref & Gilt	46.83	49.26†	– 0.02	6.92
FRANLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 374 4100				
American Growth	53.10	56.85†	– 0.66	
(Accum Units)	53.10	56.85†	– 0.66	
Amer Smlr Cos	459.00	488.70	– 7.10	
(Accum Units)	459.00	488.70	– 7.10	
Capital Tst	353.70	381.70	– 2.40	1.81
(Accum Units)	405.20	430.90†	– 3.40	1.81
Cont Smlr Cos	57.48	61.42	– 0.21	0.59
(Accum Units)	60.44	64.59	– 0.22	0.59
Conversion	118.70	126.30	– 0.70	5.07
(Accum Units)	238.70	254.00	– 1.50	5.07
Emerging Markets	69.78	64.91	– 1.66	
(Accum Units)	69.81	64.96	– 1.66	
European	112.90	119.70	+ 0.30	0.14
(Accum Units)	119.20	126.30	+ 0.30	0.14
Extra Income	307.90	327.10†	– 1.70	4.11
(Accum Units)	462.10	491.40†	– 2.70	4.10
Financials	117.10	125.00	+ 0.30	0.59
(Accum Units)	123.30	132.60	+ 0.30	0.59
Gilt Trust	68.97	62.66	– 0.13	6.57
(Accum Units)	68.34	67.66	– 0.29	6.57
Health Fund Inc	120.70	128.50	+ 0.60	
(Accum Units)	120.70	128.50	+ 0.60	
Income & Growth	178.70	189.00	– 0.80	4.30
(Accum Units)	268.80	285.60	– 1.30	3.32
Int Growth	354.00	357.50	– 1.70	
(Accum Units)	370.50	357.50	– 1.80	
Japan & Gen	188.40	197.30†	+ 2.50	
(Accum Units)	198.00	188.80†	+ 2.60	
Monthly Inc	151.70	161.30†	– 1.50	4.15
Managed Fnd Inc	97.39	102.40	– 0.30	4.56
(Accum Units)	168.10	188.50	– 0.50	1.50
Recovery	210.40	223.70	– 2.20	4.86
(Accum Units)	52.69	55.94†	– 0.27	4.65
Recovery	215.40	227.50	– 2.70	0.13
(Accum Units)	371.30	397.00†	– 3.10	0.13
UK Growth	59.59	54.06	+ 0.02	2.78
(Accum Units)	52.53	55.91	+ 0.02	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01765 651339 Enq 01706 817140				
FP Am Smlr Cos	107.20	114.60	– 0.50	0.0
FP Asian Growth	232.40	248.20	– 0.70	0.0
FP Equity Inc	355.76	378.40	– 0.90	2.05
⇒ Accum	751.50	799.20	– 0.70	2.05
FP Euro Gth Dist	137.20	146.00	– 1.80	0.50
⇒ Accum	145.60	152.70†	– 1.90	0.50
FP Fixed Int Dist	127.10	134.20†	– 1.40	7.46
⇒ Accum	205.50	348.60†	– 2.40	7.46
FP Int Gth Dist	53.98	57.50	– 0.70	0.73
FP Intl Gth Dist	85.31	90.75	– 0.66	0.73
⇒ Accum	89.31	95.01	– 0.69	0.73
FP Pac Basin Dist	178.27	188.70	– 2.68	1.16
⇒ Accum	188.20	200.20	– 2.83	1.16
FP Pac Basin Dist	287.80	305.30	– 4.00	0.28
⇒ Accum	297.80	316.40	– 4.10	0.28
FP Income	80.28	58.57	– 0.16	5.44
(Accum Units)	162.60	173.40	– 0.30	5.44
FP Jap Smlr Cos	1710.50	1330.00	+ 5.00	
FP Monthly Dist	68.91	71.46†	– 0.42	6.21
FP Stlg Deposit	100.70	100.70	+ 0.16	6.25
FP Tokyo	78.76	84.01	+ 0.66	0.0
FP UK Focus	33.03	35.57	– 0.10	2.19
FP UK Growth	159.60	169.30	– 0.40	2.61
(Accum Units)	307.40	327.80	– 0.40	2.61
Sustainability Dist	307.16	326.60	– 0.50	2.13

Gilts and equities dragged lower

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
933	390½	Abbey Nat	440	...	5.5	9.2
514	233	Allied Irish	262	- 7	5.4	10.1
279½	171	Aus New Z	222	- 2	5.1	8.1
3300	2467½	Bk Scotland	2975	- 31½	...	...
247	172½	Bank Scotland	1990	- 2½	3.3	11.2
940	487	Barclays	807	- 3	3.4	14.8
318	246	Bk of Ireland	303	- 5	4.8	8.8
2912½	2282½	Citicorp	2750	- 56½	...	...
365½	283	Close Bros	291	+ 1	4.1	10.4
2150½	2121½	Commercial	2145	- 40½	5.8	...
1298½	993¼	Del spd Kea Y	1109½	...	5.8	...
2344½	1270½	Deutsche Bk	2311½	+ 100	2.3	...
1319½	993¼	Espirito Santo	1032½	- 15½	11.6	...
90	57	First Nat Finl	69½	...	2.7	44.4
1548½	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1322½	- 1½	0.4	...
453	288	Hambros	311	- 5½	8.8	13.9
1119	880	HSBC	1044	- 15	5.4	7.9
1133	878	HSBC Hlc	1043	- 16	5.4	7.8
443	388	Joseph (L)	388	- 2	5.7	11.3
1088	424	Kleinwort Benf	572	- 9	4.7	11.1
669	519	Lloyds+	565	- 5	5.7	9.5
839½	472	Nat Aust Bk	655	- 5	6.1	9.8
622	471	Nat Westr	488	- 7	5.5	7.9
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2375	...	6.1	5.7
79	53	Rea Bros	60	...	3.0	16.8
1568	1234	Rnt Bk Scot	1413	+ ½	4.2	11.8
1572	1194	Schroders	1446	- 29	1.6	13.2
1458	1043	Schroder NV	1306	- 29	1.8	13.0
114	75	Singer & Fried	82	...	4.8	10.6
269½	223	Standd Chart	259	+ ½	3.1	8.9
291	197	TSB	234½	- 1½	4.8	10.0
1012	588	Wardley Inl	881	- 2	4.8	12.5
12105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9697½	- 112½	2.6	...
269	194	Westpac	225½	- 8½	2.4	...
350	268	Winnrstr	215	...	6.2	14.4

BREWERIES

1035	145	Ascot Hldgs	148	...	...	...
619	510	Bass	517	- 3	5.2	12.6
299	236	Boddington	246	...	4.6	12.4
196	166	Burtonwd Brw	171	...	3.7	14.3
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	160	- 5	3.2	19.4
96	46½	Fosters Brewing	56	...	4.9	14.7
493	388	Fuller Sm 'A'	340	...	4.4	14.2
511	388	Greenalls Gp	466	...	4.0	14.9
684	495	Grolsch Hldg	472	+ 1	3.5	13.6
357	238	Hardy Hewint	263	...	4.5	12.8
170	135	Heineken	156	...	1.8	...
3773	3125	Hsh J	3380	...	1.8	18.6
248	185	Marstfield	232	- 1	2.5	14.2
346	256	Mcstan Thmp	269	...	2.8	13.1
343	436	Morland	45	...	...	13.4
29	19	Pharmaunl	24	...	...	16.4
352	309	Regnl Newc	329	...	4.2	12.8
1669½	1000	SA Breweries	1481½	...	1.9	24.8
591	477	Scot & Newc	496	+ 1	4.4	14.3
306	212	Vaux Group	215	+ 1	5.7	12.1
2147½	1760½	Wenhsn-Jn JD	1875½	+ 6	3.7	25.1
617	494	Whitbread	552	- 6	4.5	14.5
588	463	Wolverhmptn D	490	...	3.5	12.7
348	258	Yates Bros	291	...	2.4	15.8
535	458	Young 'A'	468	...	4.1	19.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

205	139	Abbey	139	...	5.0	9.5
300	144	Allen	150	...	4.0	10.1
184	56	Amec	62	+ 1	6.8	35.8
167	47	Andrews Sykes	165	...	...	...
462	333	Ashtead†	419	...	1.7	17.9
191	97½	Ashtn-Jcksn	97	...	6.6	11.5
41	28	Bailey (Geo) Con	38	...	2.5	21.4
96	56	Beazer	56	- 2	...	...
282	139	Benait Desa	263	...	1.2	9.9
169	132	Bezier Homes	138	- 3	5.4	9.9
573	379	Bellway	487	- 4	4.7	11.1
36	27	Bethnl-Hnt	27	...	0.6	14.5
573	379	Bellway Plc	324	- 4	4.9	10.6
215	118	Bett Bros	176	...	6.2	11.5
355	210	Bodt (Hssy)	226	...	3.8	10.8
1265	35	Brgnd Hldgs	115	...	1.6	...
235	126	Br Bldg & Eng	126	...	5.7	14.9
197½	105	Bryant	111	- 2	10.5	...
145¾	98	CALA	105	...	3.3	14.5
54	31	Campbell & Arm	33	- 1	...	...
44	24	Clarke T	46	...	3.2	41.6
22½	17½	Costain	19½	...	...	...
85	65	Countryside	77	- 7	6.2	10.6
153	73	Crest Nicholson	87	...	3.3	...
140	80	Cussins	86	+ 6	4.9	10.4
30	17	Edmond Hdgs	18	...	2.1	...
473	238	Evs Group†	238	...	5.8	9.7
80	54	Galliford	57	...	4.7	...
112	85	Gibbs & Dandy	87	...	4.6	...
1058	823	Gleeson (MJ)	883	...	2.1	14.8
86	71	Green (Ernest)	83	...	9.0	25.5
197	121	Hanelock Exps	192	...	2.0	17.6
169	138	Hanson-Sheet	148	- 1	9.0	17.9
144	83	Higgs & Hill	93	- 3	5.9	...
32	18	Howard Hldgs	18	...	5.6	16.8
9	6	Jarvis	9	...	...	...
138	103	Kellst	105	...	4.5	12.2
198	165	Laing (J)	165	...	6.1	16.7
194	145	Laing (J) A% Cv Pf	145	...	6.9	...
145	115	Lon Clydesdale	117	...	5.7	...
173	36	Lovell (Yld)	40	- 4	3.2	4.8
253	196	Maunders (J)	201	...	3.4	12.0
321	154	McAlpine (A)	155	...	5.2	22.7
70½	49½	McCarthy & S	49½	- 1½	...	...
84	51	Morgan Sindall	53	...	0.2	...
185½	88	Mowlem (J)	89	...	2.8	...
379½	168	Parkinson	184	- 8	7.6	12.3
2400	1450	Pochins	2000	...	2.0	20.0
198	108	Powling	108	- 2	4.2	16.4
116	44½	Raine Ind	47	...	8.0	9.8
97	46	Secure Retire	47	...	...	15.2
165	93	Redpnth	95	...	3.6	8.2
31	20	Sheriff Hldgs	20	...	1.7	25.9
2128½	69½	Shorco A	88	- 1	5.7	12.5
2062½	1557	Skanska (J)	1557	...	2.1	21.2
390	156½	Speyhawk	164	...	1.7	12.3
257	151	Tay Homes	167	- 3	4.8	12.3
183	114½	Taylor Woodrw	119	...	3.8	28.1
788	448	Tilbury Douglas	448	- 8	9.4	30.7
59½	34	Tarmac Hldgs	38	...	3.1	18.6
49½	17	Tay Group	17	...	3.5	...
128	98	Tibroptank	105	...	4.4	18.8
178	108	Wainhomes	108	...	5.7	11.7
74	48	Ward Hldgs†	54	...	3.5	...
325½	123	Westbury	126	- 2	5.4	11.3
7½	3½	Wiggins	4½	...	...	...
258	124	Wilson (C)	132	- 1	4.2	10.5
348	308	Wilson Bowdn	308	- 4	3.8	13.7
249	113	Wimpey G	117	- 1	8.1	14.0

BUILDING MATERIALS

343	12	Abrdgdon	312	- 1	5.2	20.3
669	263	Alumasc	307	- 1	2.5	16.8
669½	43½	Amberley Gp	46	...	3.2	24.7
3685	2974	BPB Ind	3265	+ 9	3.1	14.5
172	93	Baggeridge Brk	93	...	3.1	12.9
90	30	Bardon	87	- 1	8.3	...
56	36	Blackwds	37	...	1.7	...
391	295	Blue Circle	368	+ 4	5.2	19.1
117	72	Bowaton PLC	74	...	7.8	21.2
154	128	Br Dredging	134	...	5.2	16.1
426	321	CRH	369	- 3	2.7	18.2
37	31	Cakebread Rby	31	...	...	4.4
278	198	Caps	208	...	6.6	13.2
295	228	Caradon	228	+ 3	4.6	15.8
11	4	Ceramic pf	7	...	7.6	...
85	65	Charlton Gp	77	...	7.7	...
134	88	Clyaos Ltd/Jt	90	...	4.1	16.1
97	63	Clyaos 'A'1	64	...	6.8	8.6
134	4½	Eclipse Blinds	5	...	...	...
369	273	Ennis	278	...	3.5	16.6
41	27	Enth	31	...	2.9	34.3
219	160	Graham Gp	168½	...	4.0	...
338	312	Hansons (J)	315	...	4.8	14.7
511	373	Hepworth	373	- 2	6.8	15.5
68	46	Hewetsons†	46	...	2.3	13.9
152½	63½	Hewitt (J)	63	...	2.6	...
473	246	Heywd Wtn	253	...	6.7	14.3
88	67	Hickory	68	- 1	6.7	...
1143	849	Hillsdn	1077	...	2.1	32.5
94	54	Hollecrest	54	...	4.2	14.7
141	120	Marley	124	...	4.2	14.0
191	124	Marshalls†	124	- 2	4.5	11.7
588	301	Meyer Int	301	- 4	4.9	20.7
195	146	Newman Tnks	164	...	4.9	15.0
276	76	Norcros	79	...	4.1	13.4
9	9	Phoenix Timber	16	+ ½	...	...
1073	825	Pilkington	1037	...	3.0	32.2
188	153½	Polypipe	938½	+ 4	2.8	19.4
1073	825	RMC Gp	938	...	...	...
9	5	Ramos	9	...	...	...
643	415	Redland	428	+ 3	7.3	19.8
109	70	Rosted	108	...	4.1	13.4
165½	102½	Rugby Estate	108	...	3.2	18.3
295	202	Russell (A)	203	...	3.9	19.7
292	238	SIG	238	...	3.4	12.7
25	16	SMP	16	...	1.4	12.8
1555	1155	Sharpe & Fisher	1395½	...	1.5	...
825	552½	Shrwg Rsns	1095½	...	6.5	...
1236	879	Sth	1095	...	5.2	10.0
1236	1055	Tarmac	1155	...	3.6	12.5
391	279	Tilcon	279	...	3.7	17.2
2	1	Tilcon Pennine	1	...	...	...
32	23	Tudor	23	...	...	...
1626	1202	Twyford	1202	...	3.2	18.1
1687½	1255	Wimpey	1255	+ 1	2.3	18.1
487½	345	Wimpey Int	347	- 1	3.0	13.7

BUSINESS SERVICES

3½	1½	Anglo Utd	1½	...	...	...
110	68	App Hldg	70	...	...	...
185	107	Ashworth	118	...	5.3	...
11	6½	Baker (CH)	7¾	...	9.2	6.7
49	30	Black Arrow	42	...	...	66.4
175	78	Br Bloodstock	94	...	...	16.0
43	5¼	Cand Gp	6	...	2.1	18.8
75	47	Chemrex	54	...	7.1	9.4
127	109	Cnsult	124	...	1.1	19.2
257	188	Fitzcarr	224	...	2.9	35.3
86	38	Headway	38	...	3.6	12.5
83	53	Hazelcdk	53	...	6.4	14.0
235	151	Leigh	151	...	3.4	14.7
2274	2214	Mallo Grf	2214	- 1	2.7	21.5
318	247	Photo-Mat	247	...	4.1	...
58	34	Prest & Gen	34	...	...	...
2½	2½	Prsm Group	2½	...	...	...
59½	5½	Reome	9	...	...	...
128	74	Shanks & McKen	75	...	3.5	12.9
248	163	Sinclair (Wm)	163	...	5.6	...
700	319	Waste Mgt Int	319	- 2	...	...

CHEMICALS

156½	109	Allied Colloids	113	...	2.7	16.0
790	705	Amoor Ind	785	...	3.4	15.5
£141	£1394	BASF DM	£1394	+ 1	3.5	...
787	592	BOC	653	+ 1	4.5	16.6
£160	£129	Bayer DM50	£154	+ 1½	3.1	14.2
171	97	Biagden	350	+ 3	5.5	...
131	98	Brent Chems	109	+ 3	4.6	15.8
369	210	Br Vita	212	- 1	4.4	...
46	16	Cambridge Isp	196½	+ 2	4.6	39.2
188	153	Canning (W)	167½	- 1½	4.4	14.2
491	391	Courtaulds	436	...	4.5	12.9
385	324	Croda	338	...	4.5	14.9
163	95	Crode Int	108	- 1	2.7	15.0
79	37½	Ecc Colours A	38	...	5.0	10.9
149	118	Gebsec†	133	+ 3	7.6	11.7
223	188	Hickson	131	+ 4	4.3	...
£1534	£1086	Hoechst	£1494	+ 493	...	...
1555	1225	Holiday Chem	1395½	...	5.7	16.5
1015	879	ICI	1005½	...	5.2	10.0
191	97½	Inbeo	104	+ 5	4.1	16.3
843	630	Laporte	824	...	2.4	...
46	46	MTM	46	...	4.0	15.1
2580	2080	Mancers	2114	...	3.3	14.4
1837	1600	McCrnc Russel	1600	...	3.1	17.4
29	25	Mercpind	25	...	3.2	14.7
1654	1454	Monkrzcon	1454	...	4.6	12.6
1365	1065	Porcelln†	1065	...	3.4	12.2
186	125	Scapa	125	...	4.8	12.2
1000	765	Scapa Spcst	765	...	3.6	12.5
1664	1366	Tebbut Chem	1366	...	4.4	18.4
1000	780	Wassn Scrnrs	780	...	3.4	18.3
1000	780	Wessington Hsg	780	...	3.4	16.0
578	450	Wiltshire R	450	...	3.1	15.5
334	264	York Chem†	264	...	3.3	...
336	248	Yule Catto	248	...	3.3	13.7

DISTRIBUTORS

127	95	Alfd Lee	96	...	5.3	11.8
317	248	Acal	294	...	3.8	16.9
585	253	Adam & Harvey	545	+ 2	3.5	6.8
31	19	Alexanderst	19	...	6.6	...
175	88	Appleyard	93	+ 3	7.8	16.4
6	3¼	Ass Br Eng	4½	...	1.5	30.3
578	495	BSS Group	530	...	4.3	18.7
29½	17	Bidning Prwrt	21	- ½	5.0	10.6
465	245	Bletchley Mk	250	+ 2	5.2	10.3
40	39	Bogod 'A'	39	...	3.1	11.8
370	288	Bremner	350	...	4.6	19.4
31	12	Bridgend Gp	14	...	1.8	72.8
99	78	Brit Fibrgls	94	...	3.0	...
71	36	Brown & Tawse	36	- 5	...	...
57	35	Burndene	39	...	6.2	...
465	245	Cellyns	250	...	5.7	41.1
99	12	Cooke Plc	15	...	9.2	8.3
139	71	Control Mtrs	71	...	4.8	47.3
51	32½	Cook (DC)	35	...	4.1	10.7
342½	197½	Dowd	249	+ 2	4.7	...
192½	127	Dng Motors	133	...	6.1	15.3
863	446	Dwnsons Sl	588	...	1.4	14.5
658	414½	Dyksons	429	+ 1	4.8	14.7
569	443	Electrocomponts	468	...	3.6	20.4
175	138	Elsdon Houset	156	...	4.8	13.1
283	226	Elec & Eveornt	246	...	4.0	16.3
234	169	Eurodollar	190	...	5.5	15.1
175	95	European Mtr	95	- 1	6.0	10.3
539½	369	Evans Halshaw	369	...	4.8	11.6
656	459½	Farnell Elect	545	+ 3	1.8	22.4
78	50	Fla Indstrs	54	- 1	6.4	7.8
34	15	Gaudiard	20½	...	4.9	...
66	16	Glenchewton	16	- ½	...	17.7
90	69	Glentrops	71	...	3.5	21.5
76	58	Hallin Hldgs	63	...	...	48.4
172	122	Harris (Philip)	168	...	5.7	14.7
342½	258	Hodgs	269	+ 10	4.0	...
191	88	Hopkins Tech	89	...	8.4	9.6
138	88	ISA Ind	99	...	3.2	12.4
688	288	Jacksn (Wm)	381	- 3	6.2	10.0
96	36	Jacks Wmng	36	...	...	15.4
184	142	Kwik-Fit	144	...	3.5	16.5
573	277	Lex Service	283	+ 5	6.1	15.1
282	152	Lookers	172	...	5.6	9.2
28	14	Mdtrans Gp	14	...	2.2	...
3	3	Middleton G	7	...	...	...
448	279	Norbain	380	...	0.7	17.0
107	87	Northumbrian	90	...	1.8	38.1
178	152	PCT	152	...	6.1	14.7
227	177	Pendragon	227	...	3.1	15.7
1127½	1000	Penn Gp	1127½	- 2½	6.9	7.0
218	135	Quicks Group	135	...	4.9	14.2
186	97	REA	163	...	4.6	33.7
54	24	Reece	24	...	...	...
6½	3½	Rego Gp	4	...	5.2	...
43	32½	SSP Indst	39½	...	3.3	...
44	31	TIS Hldgs	31	...	3.1	16.1
265	215	Time Products	215	...	4.8	15.3
252	176	Vardy (Reg)	215	+ 1	4.6	13.2
335	240	Wholesale Fgnt	243	...	6.0	21.7
30½	13½	Wilts Gp	14½	- ½	4.3	8.1
74½	39½	Wilshire	67½	...	1.2	22.8
69	49	Wilson	49	...	2.1	21.4
96	51	Young (H)	75	...	6.0	14.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

202	146	Ashtead	155	...	6.0	15.8
1	1	Ashtn-Jcksn	1	...	6.0	14.2
62	45	Ampower	49½	...	5.3	9.0
997	773½	Brokn Hill	851	- 16	3.3	18.7
491	278	BTR	314½	...	5.0	16.6
370	272	BTR	332	+ 1	6.0	13.5
270½	120½	Bensford Intl	221	...	6.3	58.5
91	49	Bibby (J)	91	...	4.5	10.0
52½	44	Brierley Inv	44½	- ½	9.3	3.6
836	638½	Chartor	747	+ 2	3.8	21.9
282	237	Dickson	275	...	3.8	19.5
280	217½	Dsmnt	253½	- 1½	8.0	14.6
280	138	Hmrsn Cnsfd	141	- 1	8.0	16.0
365½	200½	Hutch Whamp	249½	- 12½	2.2	18.4
710	409½	Jardine Math	529½	- 11½	2.7	12.5
36	27½	Jourdan (I)	29	...	4.3	20.8
1750	1249	Lonrho	1745	- 3	3.9	10.6
44	18	Parter Chatsm	41	+ 1	2.4	...
685½	452	Powell Duffryn	454	+ 1	8.9	12.8
194	118½	Reprise	124	...	7.6	14.1
486	332	Rotork	450	- 1	5.3	16.9
34½	9½	Salter	15	...	...	5.7
155	105	Sime Darby	143	- 4	3.1	18.2
267	164	Stanley	167	+ 1	6.4	51.4
209	149	Tarmac	193	+ 1	7.6	14.7
288	232	TT Group	232	...	4.1	...
288	232	Trnsthnwd	233	+ 1	4.1	15.0
1724	60½	Tralagar Hl	63	+ 1	2.0	...
445	245	Unichm	265	...	6.3	...
434	248½	Wassall	254	- 2	1.8	21.8
13½	9½	Widnerpl	9½	...	2.6	15.1
414½	309	Williams Hldg	329	...	5.0	20.3

ELECTRICITY

894½	510½	East Midlandst	749	+ 1	4.5	31.5
888	566	Eastern Elect	788	- 1	4.4	15.3
885	634	London Elect	736	+ 1	4.2	11.2
713	527½	Manchstr Elect	673	+ 1	4.4	15.2
845½	547	Midlands Elect	743	+ 4	4.2	11.4
520	404½	National Power	456½	- 1	6.2	11.5
1138	989	Northern Elec	1058	- 2	3.6	10.9
421	332	Nthn Ireland	344	+ 2	5.3	9.4
867	687	Norweb	811	- 2	4.3	11.0
867	687	PowerGen	811	- 2	4.3	11.0
477	337	Hydro-Elect	337	...	5.1	10.1
486	318	Scottish Power†	322	...	5.0	10.5
498	298	Scotland	436	- 3	3.6	11.8
912	591	Sth Wales	813	...	4.6	11.0
889	551	Sth Western†	812	...	3.9	10.8
837	540	Southern Elect	797	- 5	4.1	10.7
908	604½	Yorkshire Elec	850	+ 2	4.1	14.6

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

189	83	Accm Comp	89	- 6	1.6	...
550	476	Admiral	538	...	4.5	15.9
295	165	Alba	165	...	1.9	...
388	267	Amstrad†	267	...	...	...
38	24	Anten	24	...	...	...
94½	77	Astec	82	...	1.4	16.5
191	116	Aston	116	...	3.1	9.7
478	287	BICC	352	...	5.0	16.5
283	225	Blades Hunter	225	- 3	5.3	12.6
16	6	Berkeley Bus	7	...	...	...
535	402	Bickt	465	...	3.3	15.1
388	265	Bowthorpe	311	+ 3	2.8	17.9
31½	14½	Bridge (JW) 'A'	19	...	2.6	12.9
268	194	Cal. Micro	194	...	3.9	12.4
67	32	Clarnes Hldgs	34	...	4.6	9.7
39½	20	Chloride	20	...	0.6	58.1
88	60	Clayhithe	60	...	...	...
186	81	Cloyrmore	81	...	...	...
1880	1380	Comp Assct	1380	- 15	16.2	...
478	412	Crtechey	412	...	3.6	18.0
488	288	Data Sc Sys	288	- 1	3.5	13.0
586	421	Data	421	...	3.4	18.0
685	480	Dataint	480	...	...	...
78	58	Dowding Mills	58	...	4.8	24.1
1635	1230	Dwch	1500	...	4.9	17.2
3750½	2980	Electrolor 'B'	3096½	- 53½	3.4	...
86	56	Emess	56	...	3.6	12.8
4840½	2707½	Ericsson 'B'	3527½	- 19½	3.2	25.6
86	56	Eurocomprt	64	...	3.1	12.8
451	343	Euromarket	412	...	1.7	21.2
410	334½	Fairey Group	396	...	2.8	20.4
303	180	Farnell Gp	245	...	2.4	19.0
303	145	Farnell Tech	195	...	2.4	16.2
3537½	259	GEC	3527½	- 19½	3.4	25.6
191	119	Gresham	119	...	5.6	13.9
191	121	Ind Control	126	...	4.4	13.1
285	253	Kentrnd Hldg	260	...	3.8	14.0
1305	730	Kestrel (Alf)	1300	...	3.2	9.8
185	38	Kode	66	...	7.6	...
56	34	LPA Ind	56	...	5.9	24.2
298	260	MTL Inst	298	...	4.8	17.8
291	210	Marshall-Sntl	262	...	2.1	17.9
45	31	Microvitec	32½	...	...	16.8
484	185	Misys	300	- 10	...	...
91	60	Pacer Systems	67	...	6.6	24.2
91	74½	Peak	74½	...	4.0	19.6
2175	1400	Philips Lmp rts	2093½	- 12½	2.3	20.8
388	288	Pilkn	388	...	2.6	19.0
344	275	Pilkn 'A' Vtg	280	...	2.6	17.6
140	70	Plantec	116	...	4.6	...
140	70	Plantec	116	...	4.6	...
178	17½	Prestwick	17½	...	...	...
303	181	Psion	246	- 2	1.5	17.2
351	187	Racal Elec	351	- 1	2.4	19.0
53	30	Redstone	30	...	2.7	15.5
311	202½	Reuters	270	- 3	2.2	...
35	15	Scanmatic	15	...	...	...
394	394	Silverstones	394	...	...	24.3
394	394	Soundtracs	394	...	...	24.3
1134	17½	Spectrum	17½	...	...	...
1134	17½	Spectrum	17½	...	...	...
3225	2265½	TDK	2740½	+ 45½	1.2	...
447	174½	Tadpole Tech	202½	- 12½	...	...
179	69	Telemetrix	69	...	3.9	8.4
191	101	Telspec	101	...	3.8	45.8
246	133	Thorpe Fw	238	+ 3	2.8	16.7
142½	117	TL				

Williamson counts Festival blessings

Richard Evans meets a talented Irish rider relieved to be part of the Cheltenham scene

TONY EDENDEN



Williamson has a strong book of rides, including Alderbrook and Master Oats, at the Cheltenham Festival

Norman Williamson had just ridden his 84th winner of the season but instead of enjoying the warm glow of satisfaction his blood-drained features gave a hint of the anguish he was enduring.

A year ago today this talented Irish jockey received a controversial four-day riding ban at Doncaster which prevented him from participating in the Cheltenham Festival. The suspension cost him an estimated £17,000 in prize-money and riding fees and, just as important, the glory and honour of winning the Smurfit Champion Hurdle on Flakey Dove and the Sun Alliance Chase with Monsieur Le Cure.

As a worried Williamson waited in Taunton's spartan weighing room earlier this week while stewards found him guilty of careless riding and contemplated a suitable punishment, he immediately thought the unthinkable — missing Cheltenham for the second year running.

"Straight away, I thought this is it. One of the first things that went through my mind while standing there was who would ride Master Oats [the Gold Cup favourite]." Then there was Alderbrook, his fancied mount in the Champion Hurdle. Morceli, the favourite for the Arkle Chase, the improved Mudahim in the Stayers' Hurdle, the promising Simple Arithmetic and Betty's Boy in two novice events. An outstanding book of rides which was suddenly under threat.

To make matters worse for Williamson, he — and virtually everyone else at Taunton — thought he was blameless in an incident where another horse and jockey fell after colliding with the back of Williamson's mount halfway through the final race on Wednesday's card.

"I didn't know anything had happened, that's the sad part. I didn't know yer man had fallen," he said. "When I was cantering back I heard 'stewards' inquiry' and I thought it could not be me because I won far enough. The next thing they said I was wanted in the stewards' room and I was standing in front of them before I knew what had happened."

Ironically, the painful lesson of Doncaster 12 months ago had been in the back of Williamson's mind long before he received a letter last Monday, sent to all riders from the Jockeys' Association, reminding him to be extra careful with Cheltenham drawing nearer. As the seconds ticked by while the Taunton stewards deliberated, the popularly styled "Stormin'" Norman looked a pale shadow of his nickname.

In the end, he received a three-day ban. To most observers, that alone was harsh but at least Williamson's worst fears were averted. Provided he and his weighing room colleagues can stay out of trouble today and on Monday the threat of being suspended during Cheltenham will have passed.

The likeable lad from a Co Cork farming family learnt his craft, just like Adrian Maguire, on Ireland's highly competitive pony circuit where he was champion three times, including one year when he rode a phenomenal 65 winners. After spending 3½ beneficial years with Dermot Weld, he moved on to the point-to-point scene before being lured to England to become stable jockey for John Edwards.

By the time he left the Ross-on-Wye trainer to join Kim Bailey two years ago, Williamson had become the finished article: a stylish and patient horseman with deceptive strength in a finish. His reward last season was a first century of winners, but more important targets remain unfulfilled.

Although he is chasing Maguire and Richard Dunwoody hard in the title race, for any jump jockey Cheltenham is the most important three days of their year, not just because of the prize-money on offer but due to the enormous prestige at stake. "You don't punch the air after going by the line at Cheltenham because of the money," he said.

The nearest Williamson came to imitating Jonjo O'Neill's Dawn Run salute was on his first Festival ride in 1989 when he was pipped in the Kim Muir by Cool Ground, ridden by Anthony Tory, the man he subsequently replaced at Bailey's yard. However, this year could see the articulate 26-year-old deliver his own knockout blows.

Nobody has been more surprised than Williamson at the giant advance made by Master Oats. A year ago the jockey urged Kim Bailey to prepare him for this season's Welsh National "and sure enough he won it, but I didn't think he would win it the way he did."

Even so, he was still not convinced about his Gold Cup potential until Master Oats went to Cheltenham in January and showed he was more than a resolute stayer by handing out a 15-length thrashing to such notable talents as Barton Bank, Young Hustler and Dubacilla. "He has improved speed wise. He was very, very one paced but he has definitely stepped up a gear."

"He's never met top quality three-mile chasers on good ground and that is why I think his price for the Gold Cup is absolutely crazy. He's favourite because he's the only horse that has done nothing wrong, rather than prove he has class. If the ground is soft he will have a favourite's chance, but if it dries out I would see a lot of dangers."

Alderbrook's conversion from a 50-1 long-shot to 5-1 third favourite for the Champion Hurdle after a decisive victory in Wincanton's Kingwell Hurdle only served to confirm the home work of the group two Flat winner. "The last day I schooled him I had never been so quick over hurdles in my life; he literally ran away with me. He will need everything to go right on the day but, hopefully, he has the class to take me there."

Morceli is as short as 2-1 for the Arkle but Williamson believes Howard Johnson's novice chaser has an outstanding chance. "If he jumps the way he has twice done so far, he has to take all the beating. I am very hopeful."

He added: "There are a lot of fancied rides. I'm not nervous and I am looking forward to it but at the same time I would like to have it out of the way as well. You would like to know what is going to happen." Perhaps, most important of all, Williamson would like to know Cheltenham will happen for him this year.

NEWBURY

THUNDERER

1.00 Soothfast
1.30 Kentish Piper
2.00 Hops And Pops
2.30 Easthorpe
3.05 General Mouktar
3.40 Pashto
4.10 Dantas Cavalier

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F — flat. /B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: HEAVY (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

1.00 EASTLEIGH HANDICAP HURDLE — BBC1

(£5,848: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

1	13131-	DREAMS END 306 (D,F,S) (T Price) B Llewellyn 7-12-0	M Houlgan	99
2	203P-08	KILCASH 68 (B,D,G,S) (J Whelan) P Hedger 7-11-13	D Bridgwater	99
3	2611-13	BARNA BOY 22 (BF,G,S) (L Wilson) N Henderson 7-11-6	M A Fitzgerald	90
4	40/1032-	SOOTHFAST 336 (D,S) (W Sturt) J Old 6-10-3	T Grantham	91
5	P310-04	NEMURO 23 (D,S) (W Hanison-Allan) D Elsworth 7-10-0	P Holley	94
6	/11121	NAMASTE 28 (D,G,S) (J Cahuzac) R Hoad 7-10-0	G Bradley	98
7	0/04103	MUSICAL MONARCH 35 (B,S) (S Williams) D Sherwood 9-10-0	2nd pref	89
8	256421	ZEALOUS KITTEN 16 (D,G,S) (M Osenton) R Price 7-10-0	G Tormey (5)	86
9	001945	BADRAKHANI 9 (D,G,S) (P Slade) C Nash 9-10-0	Pat Thompson (7)	74

Long handicap: Nemuro 9-13, Namaste 9-10, Musical Monarch 9-10, Zealous Kitten 9-6, Badrakhani 8-6.

BETTING: 2-1 Barna Boy, 9-2 Dreams End, 5-1 Namaste, 6-1 Soothfast, Nemuro, 7-1 Kilcash, 10-1 Musical Monarch, 12-1 others.

1994: DANCING PADDY 6-11-2 D O'Sullivan (9-2) K Cunningham-Brown 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

DREAMS END beat For Reg 3½l in 18-runner grade III Swinton Handicap Hurdle at Haydock (2m, good to firm) May 1994. BARNA BOY beat In Truth 5l in 11-runner novice chase at Leicester (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start. SOOTHFAST 11l 2nd of 4 to Sun Surfer in handicap hurdle at Ultoxeter (2m, heavy) April 1994. NEMURO 3½l 4th of 11 to Lightenang Lad in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m, soft). NAMASTE beat August Twelfth 12l in 13-runner handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft). ZEALOUS KITTEN beat Stalebuck a head in 4-runner handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, heavy). Earlier (9l 2nd of 6 to Pridwell in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, heavy) with MUSICAL MONARCH (5lb better off) 1½l 3rd. BADRAKHANI 11l 4th of 8 to Mariner's Air in handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, heavy) on penultimate start.
Selection: SOOTHFAST

1.30 NORTH SYDMONTON HANDICAP CHASE — BBC1

(£6,992: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

1	12/11FP	GIVUS A BUCK 98 (B,CD,F,G,S) (K Costello) D Elsworth 12-11-10	P Holley	93
2	422211	BIBENDUM 14 (D,F,G,S) (R Wailey-Cohen) R Wailey-Cohen 9-11-0	2nd pref	86
3	/1/71/45	PLASTIC SPACEAGE 7 (D,G,S) (Spaceage Plastics Ltd) J Old 12-10-11	T Grantham	84
4	22F-33	ROUGH QUEST 14 (D,G) (A A Wates) T Casey 9-10-11	R Dunwoody	95
5	3FPF-32	GNOME'S TYCOON 16 (CD,F,G,S) (I Naylor) R Phillips 9-10-8	2nd pref	89
6	102-6F4	KENTISH PIPER 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs T Perkins) N Gaselee 10-10-8	J Osborne	88

BETTING: 5-2 Bibendum, 11-4 Gnome's Tycoon, 3-1 Rough Quest, 9-2 Givus A Buck, 6-1 Kentish Piper, 7-1 Plastic Spaceage.

1994: MINNEHOMA 11-12-0 R Dunwoody (11-2) M Pipe 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

GIVUS A BUCK luckily beat BIBENDUM (1lb worse off) 30l in 6-runner grade II Desert Orchid Limited Handicap Chase at Wincanton (2m 5f, firm). BIBENDUM beat Stalin Royal 3l in 8-runner handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 4f, good to soft) with ROUGH QUEST (5lb better off) 5l 3rd and KENTISH PIPER (9lb better off) distance 4th. PLASTIC SPACEAGE about 4l last of 4 to Zealous Kitten in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, heavy). Best recent chase effort beat Sooner Still 12l in 6-runner handicap chase at Newton Abbot (3m 2f 110yd, good). GNOME'S TYCOON 2½l 2nd of 4 to Rouyan in handicap chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). KENTISH PIPER best effort this term 5l 2nd of 6 to Midnight Caller in handicap chase at Newbury (3m, heavy).
Selection: ROUGH QUEST

2.00 BERKSHIRE HURDLE — BBC1

(Limited handicap: grade II: £11,180: 2m 5f) (13 runners)

1	08	SAINT KEYNE 8 (Berkshire Commercial Components Ltd) D Williams 5-11-7	P Holley	--
2	231-224	SUN SURFER 14 (CD,BF,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 7-11-7	2nd pref	96
3	630-030	JEASSU 28 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mills) A J Wilson 12-11-2	D Leahy (3)	95
4	113123	ISLAND JEWEL 25 (S) (M Cartwright) J Bosley 7-10-11	M Bosley	95
5	1013U1	HOPS AND POPS 8 (F,G,S) (The Happy Band) R Alner 8-10-9	R Dunwoody	85
6	42-4P04	CALAPAEZ 42 (F,G,S) (T Blake) Miss B Sanders 11-10-7	M Richards	89
7	229523	HIGH GRADE 11 (G,S) (Under Orders Racing III) Miss S Wilson 7-10-7	T Eley (3)	97
8	101-2PU	BALLET ROYAL 11 (G,S) (H Manners) H Manners 6-10-7	M Appleby (7)	93
9	350-185	ULURU 49 (F,S) (P Morgan) C Nash 7-10-7	Pat Thompson (7)	82
10	3-31504	GODLY 22 (S) (Ms M Rogers) J Webb 6-10-7	D Bridgwater	86
11	P/01-864	DUNCAN IDAHO 8 (G,S) (R Callow) R Callow 12-10-7	M A Fitzgerald	79
12	1545P3	L'UOMO PIU 14 (F,S,S) (C Spencer) A Barrow 11-10-7	B Powell	--
13	6/0216-5	TRY NEXT DOOR 112 (S) (M Griffiths) D Brawn 8-10-7	S O'Donnell (7)	--

Long handicaps: Calapaez 10-2, High Grade 10-0, Ballet Royal 9-11, Uluru 9-6, Googly 9-6, Duncan Idaho 8-12, L'Uomo Piu 8-6, Try Next Door 7-4

BETTING: 4-1 Hops And Pops, 5-1 Island Jewel, 6-1 Sun Surfer, 7-1 High Grade, 8-1 Calapaez, Googly, 10-1 Uluru, 12-1 others.

1994: FLAKEY DOVE 8-11-7 R Dunwoody (1-2 fav) R Price 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SUN SURFER neck 2nd of 8 to Ask The Governor in handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start, with ISLAND JEWEL (4lb worse off) 5l 3rd and DUNCAN IDAHO (7lb worse off) tailed off 6th. ISLAND JEWEL 5l 2nd of 8 to Cyborgo in handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good) on penultimate start. HOPS AND POPS beat Who Is Equiname 25l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Kempton (2m, heavy). CALAPAEZ 24l 4th of 7 to Bibendum in handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) HIGH GRADE 23l 3rd of 8 to Allegation in grade II Regency Hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, soft) with BALLET ROYAL unseated rider 1st. BALLET ROYAL best effort this term 14l 2nd of 9 to Society Guest in amateur riders' handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 110yd, good to soft)
Selection: HOPS AND POPS (nap)

2.30 WICKHAM NOVICES CHASE (£3,392: 2m 1f) (5 runners)

1	2U5123	EASTHORPE 14 (F,G,S) (M Broughton) Miss H Knight 7-11-10	M A Fitzgerald	98
2	P6F152	JAMES THE FIRST 7 (F,G,S) (D Nicholls) P Nicholls 7-11-7	R Dunwoody	89
3	50-02PP	A FORTIORI 9 (B,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 7-11-2	M Foster	--
4	/P4/P3P	FIRST DESIGN 9 (G) (P Jones) P Jones 8-11-2	Mr J Culloty (7)	91
5	661504	HAWAIIAN YOUTH 14 (G,S) (G Radford) R Rowe 7-11-2	G McCourt	--

BETTING: Evens Easthorpe, 7-2 Hawaiian Youth, 4-1 James The First, 5-1 A Fortiori, 16-1 First Design.

1994: BEACH BUM 8-11-8 C Maude (20-1) Mrs J Young 9 ran

3.05 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

(£3,552: 2m 110yd) (11 runners)

1	320-	GENERAL MOUKTAR 352 (A Hetalso) M Pipe 5-12-0	R Dunwoody	86
2	003-251	UNSHAKABLE BORDER 138 (S) (P Green) N Walker 6-12-0	B Powell	--
3	50P0-2P	DRESS DANCE 14 (Mrs J Powell) N Mitchell 5-11-4	Miss S Mitchell (7)	95
4	035-044	NORSE RAIDER 91 (P Fyrth) D Elsworth 5-11-4	P Holley	86
5	5-R205	ROYAL SEGOS 63 (Mrs N Duffield) Mrs P Duffield 8-10-13	A McCabe	92
6	55130	SOPHIE MAY 18 (S) (J Daniels) M Dixon 4-10-13	M Atkinater (7)	88
7	422	SHOCKR 16 (S Davies) S Dow 4-10-11	J Osborne	88
8	3643	RANZEL 22 (S) (Mrs A Lee) Mrs D Haine 5-10-9	J F Titley	95
9	0PPY	TONY'S DELIGHT 718 (Exors of Mrs S Lousada) C Egerton 7-10-9	M A Fitzgerald	--
10	4-6P	BUNDERBURG 65 (J Joseph) B Frost 5-10-4	J Frost	73
11	640	MISS GRUNTLEE 99 (Mrs M Duff) D Brench Davis 4-10-0	D Bridgwater	83

BETTING: 3-1 General Mouktar, 4-1 Norse Raider, 9-2 Shockr, 7-1 Sophie May, Ranzel, 10-1 Unsinkable Boxer, 12-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

3.40 JACK O'NEWBURY NOVICES CHASE (£3,548: 2m 4f) (5 runners)

1	1/4/2P-1	FAIR CROSSING 26 (G,S) (Mrs S Weatherby) C Egerton 9-11-12	J Osborne	98
2	34/1TP4	PASHTO 11 (D,G,S) (R Toody) N Henderson 8-11-12	M A Fitzgerald	96
3	3-PF11U	JURASSIC CLASSIC 47 (BF,S) (H Seal) Mrs L Richards 8-11-9	M Richards	85
4	42P11-5	MAESTRO PAUL 22 (F,G,S) (H Pelligan) J Gifford 9-11-4	P Hide	--
5	52P-4PF	TEKLA 8 (S) (E Lodge) A Chamberlain 10-11-4	D Leahy (3)	79

BETTING: 9-4 Fair Crossing, 5-2 Pashto, 11-4 Maestro Paul, 7-2 Jurassic Classic, 8-1 Tekla.

1994: ALL FOR LUCK 9-11-4 R Dunwoody (5-4 fav) M Pipe 7 ran

4.10 THATCHAM OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

(£1,382: 2m 110yd) (20 runners)

1	3	DANTES CAVALIER 11 (T Whitley) D Gandolfo 5-11-2	D Leahy (3)	--
2	5-	FROWN 306 (Rhys Thomas Williams) F Murphy 5-11-2	A P McCoy	--
3	0	GENERAL AVERAGE 24 (Mrs L Hoar) M Campion 5-11-2	L Dace	--
4		GREENSIDE CHAT (The Fairway Partnership) S Dow 5-11-2	Mr T Cuff	--
5	30	HOH DELIVERY 9 (D Allport) Mrs J Renfree-Barnes 6-11-2	M Pennell	--
6	0	KIRSTY'S PAL 61 (D Bloomfield) D Bloomfield 6-11-2	R Darke	--
7		MAYB-MAY6 (M & N Plant Ltd) R Simpson 5-11-2	P Hide	--
8		MUSIC THERAPY (R Van Golder) T Forster 5-11-2	M A Fitzgerald	--
9	23-	PETE THE PARSON 376 (W Sturt) J Old 6-11-2	T Grantham	--
10	3	REVEREND BROWN 24 (BF) (J Palmer-Brown) D Sherwood 5-11-2	J Osborne	--
11	24	SCOTSY 23 (Mrs E Gardiner) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-2	D Bridgwater	--
12	0	FLYNN'S GIRL 49 (R & E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-11	L Renton(5)Hold	--
13		WHATACARRYON (Rhys Thomas Williams) F Murphy 6-10-11	M Foster	--
14		KIMBROSS (Mrs J Rotchelle) M Pipe 4-10-8	R Dunwoody	--
15		MAGIC WIZARD (C Dyer Syndicating) P Hayward 4-10-8	S Righton (7)	--
16	0	MUMBAY'S MOLE 24 (Rox Racing Ltd) G Rae 4-10-8	R Bellamy	--
17		PRAXITILES (Mrs D Penfield) T Forster 4-10-8	G McCourt	--
18	B	RAINBOW RUNNER 9 (Mrs N Duffield) Mrs P Duffield 4-10-8	P Holley	--
19		ROVESTAR (Mrs P King) J King 4-10-8	A Procter (3)	--
20		WYNBERG (Mrs D Pridden) T Forster 4-10-8	B Powell	--

BETTING: 3-1 Reverend Brown, 9-2 Dantes Cavalier, 6-1 Scotsy, 8-1 Praxitiles, Pete The Parson, Wynberg, Kimbross, 10-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
D Sherwood	23	83	27.7	R Dunwoody	51	184	27.7
M Pipe	22	92	23.9	J Osborne	43	174	24.7
N Henderson	27	120	22.5	P Holley	17	71	23.9
D Elsworth	18	81	22.2	M Pennell	9	63	14.3
T Forster	7	42	16.7	J Frost	8	62	12.9
F Murphy	3	19	15.8	G McCourt	9	71	12.7

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Doncaster (first race 2.00), Edinburgh (2.10), Windsor (2.20).

TUESDAY: Bangor (2.10), Leicester (2.20), Sedgefield (2.00).

WEDNESDAY: Wolverhampton (AW, 2.10), Catterick (2.00), Folkestone (1.50).

THURSDAY: Carlisle (2.10), Towcester (2.20), Wincanton (2.00).

FRIDAY: Ayr (1.50), Market Rasen (1.40), Sandown Park (2.00).

SATURDAY: Ayr (1.45), Chepstow (BBC, 1.00), Sandown Park (C4, 1.55), Southwell (1.40)

Flat meetings in bold

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W'HAMPTON	105	205	305
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DONCASTER

THUNDERER

1.55 Go Ballistic
2.25 I Have Him
3.00 Eurolink The Lad
3.35 BIBENDUM (nap)
4.05 Royal Athlete
4.40 Meleagris
5.10 Kamiller

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.55 GO BALLISTIC.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

1.55 ROSE HILL NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE

(15: 2m 4f) (19 runners)

1	00-1P3	FIXTURESSECRETARY 14 (S) (N Manley) D Nicholson 6-11-10	A Maguire	94
2	0313P4	GO BALLISTIC 15 (S) (Mrs B Lockhart) J O'Shea 6-11-10	A Dobbin	88
3	34-P1	KEEL ROW 47 (S) (Queen Elizabeth) T Thompson Jones 5-11-5	M Dwyer	92
4	0	BLACK STATEMENT 15 (B Naylor) A Jarvis 5-11-4	P Morris (7)	--
5	00	BLAKENEY LAD 25 (Mrs J Cumbleton) B McMahon 5-11-4	P Niven	--
6	5	BLANK CHEQUE 15 (C Courage) M Wilkinson 5-11-4	R Supple	--
7	0PP	CLIVONE 78 (S Green) T Tate 5-11-4	R Garritty	--
8	PPP8	CROSA'S DELIGHT 7 (S Jones) A Jones 8-11-4	W McFarland	--
9	0	DRUMCULLER 14 (M Scott) K Bailey 5-11-4	N Williamson	85
10	P00	EYRE POINT 29 (Mallcom Pic) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-4	W Marston	86
11	F03	LODESTONE LAD 15 (B) (Mrs D Weaver) R Dickin 5-11-4	D Meredith (3)	87
12	00	LUKER BOY 42 (Luker Bros Ltd) D Nicholson 5-11-4	G Hogan (5)	--
13	F-F6	MALACHITE GREEN 43 (S) (Rylands Co Ltd) M Hammond 5-11-4	Mr C Bonner (5)	73
14	P-00	NORDIC FLIGHT 19 (B) (Lyonshall Racing) R Eckley 7-11-4	V Slattery	--
15	P364	OXFORD QUILL 47 (S) (T Parrott) R Curtis 8-11-4	D Morris	73
16	2-804	THE SHY PADRE 24 (M Bateman, D Collard) R Lee 5-11-4	R Greene	77
17	PP-	THREE JAYS 343P (R Foulds) D Thom 8-11-4	N Mann	--
18	00	YORKSHIRE SQUIRE 14 (E Robson) P Beaumont 6-11-4	C Hawkins	--
19	4-U0	CORN BOW 85 (J Clegg) J Clegg 6-10-13	W Humphreys	70

RATING: 5-2 Go Ballistic, 9-2 Keel Row, 5-1 Fixturessecretary, 6-1 Drumcuiller, 10-1 Malachite Green, 14-1 Eyre Point, 16-1 others.

1994: OUTSET 4-10-8 Mr C Bonner (6-1) M Hammond 15 ran

2.25 HMS ANDROMEDA NOVICES CHASE — C4

(£3,470: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

1	2U5123	EASTHORPE 14 (D,F,G,S) (M Broughton) Miss H Knight 7-12-0	M A Fitzgerald	77
2	114/P2	I HAVE HIM 68 (D,F,S) (T Weller) A Jones 8-12-0	N Williamson	80
3	FP230P	CHEEKA 14 (D Thompson) C Smith 6-11-2	M Rimmer	68
4	021-012	ELEGANT FRIEND 15 (S,S) (Mrs B Lockey) M Tompkins 7-11-2	A Maguire	--
5	220-335	JIMMY THE GILLIE 66 (F,G,S) (N Robinson) S Christian 9-11-2	G Upton	88
6	0-P	JUST BRUCE 75 (A Heale) Mrs E Heale 6-11-2	R Supple	--
7	/00P-P3	MANAHOUR 14 (W Rossi) R Lee 8-11-2	R Greene	--
8	36-1334	WHIPPERS DELIGHT 65 (E,S) (S Tindall) G Charles-Jones 7-11-2	Paul Thompson (7)	--

BETTING: 6-4 I Have Him, 7-4 Easthorpe, 4-1 Jimmy The Gillie, 10-1 Whippers Delight, 12-1 Elegant Friend, 33-1 Cheeka, 50-1 others.

1994: FULL O'PRAISE 7-11-2 T Reed (5-1) P Calver 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

EASTHORPE 16½l 3rd of 7 to Auburn Castle in the grade II Michael Seely Novice Chase at Nottingham (2m, good to soft). I HAVE HIM 15l 2nd of 8 to Kytton Castle in novice chase at Hereford (2m, good to soft). CHEEKA 11l 2nd of 4 to Butler's Twitch in novice chase at Nottingham (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. ELEGANT FRIEND next 2nd of 16 to Pinecone Peter in handicap hurdle at Folkestone (2m, good to soft). JIMMY THE GILLIE 19l 5th of 7 to Strong Deel in novice chase at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good). MANAHOUR tailed off 3rd of 7 to Benbonnie Lancaster in novice chase at Cheqstow (2m 110yd, heavy). WHIPPERS DELIGHT 24l 4th of 8 to Redeemproussel in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, soft).
Selection: JIMMY THE GILLIE

3.00 PARDUBICE HANDICAP HURDLE — C4

(£3,834: 2m 110yd) (12 runners)

1	2/1122-F	BELL STARFBOY 84 (D,F,S) (K Bell & Son Ltd) C Broad 6-12-0	W Marston	78
2	45-3065	MAHAR 49 (D,G) (R Cross) S Dow 10-11-11	P Niven	92
3	04-5062	DEB'S BALL 67 (D,F,S,S) (Miss M Faughan) D Moffatt 9-11-10	D J Moffatt (3)	96
4	11043-F	ASLAN 117 (D,BF,S) (R Bacon) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-9	M Dwyer	89
5	222004-	BELLTON 346 (D,F,S) (R Green) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-4	B Storey	82
6	11/U4	EUROLINK THE LAD 7 (D,F,S) (Eurolink Group Plc) D Nicholson 8-10-13	A Maguire	90
7	122-011	BARRY'S DREAM 143 (D,F,S) (R Stillwell) D McCain 7-10-12	K Johnson	87
8	642F41	BRAMBLEBERRY 8 (D,S) (Hampton Racing) Mrs S Smith 6-10-11	Richard Guest	84
9	317	MR CONFUSION 32 (D,S,S) (R Fenwick-Gibson) J Eyre 7-10-8	G Peers	91
10	53101	THORNTON GATE 32 (D,S,S) (T Bennett) M H Easterby 6-10-7	L Wyer	78
11	30-0600	GYMCRAK STARDOM 7 (D,B,S) (Gymcrak Racing) C Holmes 9-10-3	M Williamson	65
12	15/006-6	HIDDEN OATS 11 (D,F,S) (T Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 8-10-0	L Harvey	58

Long handicap: Hidden Oats 9-12.

BETTING: 2-1 Mr Confusion, 7-2 Thornton Gate, 9-2 Bramblebery, 6-1 Eurolink The Lad, 10-1 Aslan, Barry's Dream, 12-1 Mahar, 14-1 others.

1994: RATIFY 7-10-0 A S Smith (12-1) K Morgan 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

BELL STARFBOY 16l 2nd of 7 to Glaisdale in novice hurdle at Newbury (2m 5f, heavy) December 1993. ASLAN best effort last term 9½l 4th of 6 to Cyborgo in grade II novice hurdle at Aintree (2m 4f, soft) April 1994. EUROLINK THE LAD 9½l 4th of 10 to Blast Freeze in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good) with GYMCRAK STARDOM (3lb better off) 20l 7th. BARRY'S DREAM best had Indian Ji 3l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Wetherby (2m, good to soft) with BRAMBLEBERRY (5lb worse off) about 9l 4th. BRAMBLEBERRY beat Bond Sable 4l in 5-runner handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m, heavy). MR CONFUSION beat William Tell 5l in 15-runner novice hurdle at Edinburgh (2m, good to soft). THORNTON GATE best Up to Flames 3½l in 14-runner novice hurdle at Edinburgh (2m, good to soft). HIDDEN OATS 3½l 2nd of 15 in Jamestown Boy in handicap hurdle at Ultoxeter (2m 4f 110yd, good) on penultimate start, November 1993.
Selection: THORNTON GATE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
C Thornton	3	5	60.0	A Maguire	4	8	50.0
N Twiston-Davies	3	8	37.5	P Niven	17	82	32.7
R Lee	3	13	23.1	N Williamson	6	24	25.0
Mrs M Reveley	15	69	21.7	L Wyer	9	41	22.0
D Nicholson	8	42	19.0	W Marston	4	19	21.1
N Doyle	7	37	18.9	A S Smith	3	15	20.0

3.35 MITSUBISHI SHOGUN TROPHY — C4

(Handicap chase: £7,003: 2m 3f 110yd) (9 runners)

1	6S1065/	TINRYLAND 876 (C,F,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 11-12-0	J R Kavanagh	--
2	422211	BIBENDUM 14 (F,G,S) (R Wailey-Cohen) R Wailey-Cohen 9-11-12	Peter Hobbs	95
3	16-6P11	SIR PETER LELY 75 (V,F,G,S) (J Doyle Ltd) M Hammond 8-11-8	Mr C Bonner (5)	91
4	3FPF-32	GNOME'S TYCOON 18 (CD,F,G,S) (I Naylor) R Phillips 9-11-6	J Railton	85
5	3P416P	RODEO STAR 21 (B,CD,F,G,S) (J Bradbury) N Tinkler 9-10-13	M Dwyer	89
6	11U5-65	KIND'A SMART 101 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs P Butler) K Morgan 10-10-6	A S Smith	95
7	2PP-340	ONE MORE DREAM 14 (R) (M Jackson Bloodstock) Mrs S Smith 8-10-9	Richard Guest	93
8	0/50542-	MR JAMBOREE 401 (F,G) (Mrs D Lowsade) K Bailey 8-10-7	N Williamson	76
9	41-1U11	BOARDING SCHOOL 32 (F,G,S) (H Grese) C Parker 8-10-1	B Storey	89

BETTING: 3-1 Bibendum, 4-1 Gnome's Tycoon, 5-1 Boarding School, 6-1 Sir Peter Lely, 7-1 Mr Jamboree, 10-1 Rodeo Star, 12-1 Kind'a Smart, One More Dream, 16-1 Tinryland.

1994: KIND'A SMART 9-10-0 A S Smith (17-2) K Morgan 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

TINRYLAND about 25l 5th of 8 to Gelbum's Nephew in handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good) April 1993. BIBENDUM last South Royal 3l in 8-runner handicap chase at Nottingham (2m 4f, good to soft). SIR PETER LELY beat Comet 8l in 7-runner handicap chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good) with BOARDING SCHOOL unseated rider 10th. GNOME'S TYCOON 24l 2nd of 4 to Rouyan in handicap chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). RODEO STAR best effort this term beat Snitton Lane 24l 6th of 6 to Gelbum's Nephew in handicap chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. KIND'A SMART 9l 3rd and neck 3rd of 5 to Ob Sos Grumpy in handicap chase at Kempton (2m, good). MR JAMBOREE 8l 2nd of 5 to Dan Drom in conditional jockeys handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, soft) January 1994. BOARDING SCHOOL best Charming Gale 14l in 8-runner handicap chase at Edinburgh (2m 4f, good to

Olazábal limps on in Rocca's shadow

FROM MEL WEBB IN HUELVA, SPAIN

THE frowns were spreading hither and yon: gloom and despondency were etched on the sponsors' faces. They were about to lose their star attraction in the Turespaña Andalucian Open golf tournament and they wondered if it had all been worth it. Then, the waters suddenly and miraculously parted and all was well again. José Maria Olazábal would be at Islantilla for the weekend.

Olazábal was less hampered yesterday by the foot that is still recuperating from an operation a month ago, but, although he would walk better to his ball than on the day before, the shots that he hit when he got there were not in the same street.

Olazábal had a 72 when limping on Thursday and turned in a 76 yesterday. "I was playing well, too," he said slightly incredulously. "I played a lot better than I scored. I just couldn't believe the score I was shooting out there.

"My foot was much better today. It felt good when I woke up this morning and, although it still hurt a bit, the improvement from yesterday was dramatic." Beware the injured golfer, they say. There is nothing like a bit of good, old-fashioned pain to keep the mind on the job.

For all the improvement in his state of health, Olazábal still finished the day 12 shots behind Costantino Rocca. A course record of 65 for a total of 136, six under par, put the Italian Ryder Cup player three shots clear of his nearest pursuers, Alexander Cejka, of Germany, Des Smyth, the first-round leader, and David Carter, who won the European Tour qualifying school last autumn.

The hole which almost ended Olazábal's continued presence in the tournament was the 7th, where he blocked his drive to the right into bushes and finished with a triple-bogey seven. He had already three-putted the 2nd and 4th for bogeys and he took 40 to play the front nine, supposedly the easier half.

Like most of his rivals, he dropped a shot at the bizarrely difficult 13th and also bogeyed the 15th, when he hit a two-iron into a bunker and failed to get up and down. He knew, at that point, that he would have to birdie one of the remaining three holes to stay in the tournament, and the closing holes at Islantilla do not yield shots easily. The pressure was mounting on him — and on the men in suits in the sponsors' tent. He duly rolled in a three-footer at the 16th.

Rocca, meanwhile, was rolling in a mile of putts — he took only 12 of them in the last ten holes, including eight singles. Rocca would be the first to admit that he is a streaky putter, but this time the streak was golden. Perhaps the change in image he is cultivating — there is evidence of what may well turn out to be a moustache lurking on his upper lip — will extend to his putting.

"When I was playing practice rounds, I thought if somebody had offered me level par for the tournament, I would have taken it," he said. "The front nine here is playable, but the back nine is very difficult." Although not when you are sinking putts from here to eternity.

It was a flawless round, containing three birdies on each half, but, although saving shots on the 4th and 8th, he did not really warm up on the greens until the 9th, which he also birdied. From then on, he was irresistible.

He holed from 10ft on the 11th, 12ft on the 12th and 18ft on the 17th for birdies, and, long before the end, the ball looked as if it was running into the hole on rails. If he keeps this up over the weekend, he will surely win. The one thing he must absolutely not do is shave off his moustache.

Nick Faldo, with his putter working well, scored 67 in the first round of the Doral Open in Miami on Thursday, a round which left him two strokes behind the leaders — Scott Verplank, Davis Love III and Steve Lowery, of the United States. Colin Montgomerie had a 72, but that still put him two strokes ahead of Ernie Els, the US Open champion, and three in front of David Feherty.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Cowan, a bright prospect, was beaten in Bracknell final

Petchey enhances Davis Cup hopes

BY STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

FOR the second successive year, Mark Petchey's achievement on Mexican clay has brightened Great Britain's outlook in the Davis Cup. He, and especially David Lloyd, the new captain for the forthcoming tie in Slovakia, will be trusting that it is not another false dawn.

In the absence of Jeremy Bates, who has retired from national duty, Petchey will doubtless bear the principal responsibility in Bratislava at the end of next month. Defeat would lead to Britain becoming embroiled in a play-off to avoid being relegated from, effectively, the third division.

As the tie is to be staged on clay, the British team was not favoured to win, but Petchey altered the odds on Thursday night. In Mexico City, he beat Alberto Berasategui, the second best clay-court player in the world, in straight sets to reach the quarter-final.

His defeat of Berasategui is more remarkable than his wins last year over two other members of the top ten, Michael Stich, the temperamental German, can capitulate against anybody, and Michael Chang, of the United States, has been dismissed by Andre Agassi as a player "who runs for a living".

Bates, the Britain No 1, has compared competing against Berasategui on clay to "playing against a brick wall". Only Sergi Bruguera, his Spanish compatriot who beat him in the French Open final last year, is more formidable on the slow surface.

Petchey provided an equally opportune fillip last year. In the same tournament in Mexico City, he took Thomas Muster, the defending champion and another acknowledged clay-court specialist, to four sets before losing in the semi-final.

Britain, under Tony Pickard, set off for the ensuing Davis Cup tie on Portuguese clay with substantial optimism, but Petchey, appearing to be a novice, was twice beaten in straight sets by lower-ranked opponents. The team lost 4-1 and was forced into a relegation play-off against Romania.

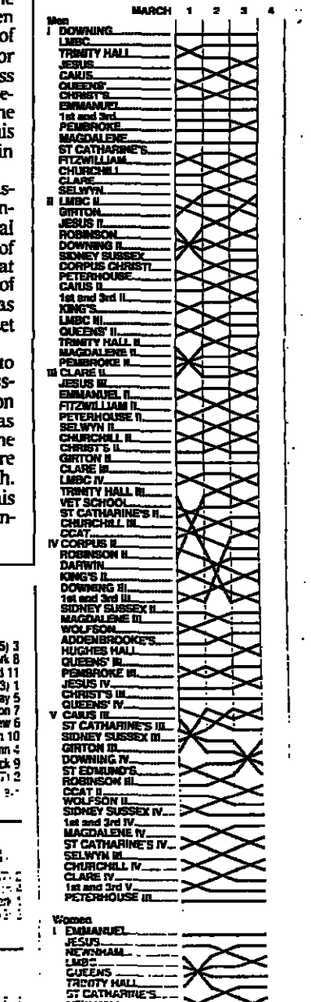
Petchey, though on home grass, fared no better then and extended his sequence of failure in singles rubbers. For all of his individual success (he is on the verge of re-entering the world top 100), he has not won on his own for his country since his debut in 1991.

Barry Cowan, 20, a Lancastrian, provided further encouragement for the national game in reaching the final of the satellite tournament at Bracknell. In the first round of Wimbledon last year, he was drawn against, and took a set off, Bruguera.

Yesterday, he was forced to play to his relative weaknesses, from the baseline and on his backhand, by Thomas Johansson, the No 1 seed. The Swede won 6-4, 6-2 to capture his third title within a month. Today, Cowan leaves for his next tournament, coincidentally in Mexico.

Umpire's threat to Downing headship

DOWNING remained clear in the men's first division of the Cambridge University Lent races, but were threatened by Ed Davison, the senior umpire and university boat club secretary, with loss of the headship today if their cox again drops the bung early. Sidney Sussex, who started sixth in the second division, climbed into the first division after bumping Selwyn and Clare. Emmanuel stayed in pole position in the women's divisions, finishing four lengths ahead of Trinity Hall. Behind them, Queens' caught Jesus at Ditton.



WARWICK

THUNDERER

2.20 Millmount. 2.50 Nadiad. 3.20 Alice's Mirror. 3.50 Willsford. 4.20 Musical Monarch. 4.55 Espy. 5.25 Equinimity.

Brian Beel: 4.55 Espy.

GOING: HEAVY (8AM INSPECTION) SIS

2.20 WATERGALL NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,847: 2m 4f 110yd) (18 runners)

1	1053	MAD 14 (S) J White 5-11-8	R Farrant
2	1-00	AMAZING MAN 28 (S) Mrs M McCourt 6-11-2	S McCourt
3	0030	COMTI D'ESTRUVAL 16 (S) G Balding 5-11-2	A P McCoy
4	0P-P	DAYTIME BOMBER 116 D Marks 5-11-2	B Clifford
5	000	DEEP SONG 24 P Pritchard 5-11-2	R Davis
6	100P-	DEVIL'S STING 348 P Hobbs 6-11-2	R Bellamy
7	0482	DO RIGHTLY 14 M Brassington 6-11-2	A Procter (3)
8	3264	HUGE MISTAKE 84 (D) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-2	T Jenks
9	PP	MOUNTAIN LEADER 55 D Hydo 5-11-2	S Keightley
10	-0PP	MR WENDYL 65 C Tristfine 7-11-2	D Gallagher
11	23	MYLAND 45 O Sherwood 6-11-2	J A McCarthy
12	-545	PURBECK CAVALIER 25 Mrs J Reese 6-11-2	S Burrough
13	-UP5	THIRD SCHEDULE 7 R Lee 7-11-2	C Maude
14	-251	UNSINKABLE BOXER 139 (S) N Walker 6-11-2	2nd pref
15	-223	MILLMOUNT 28 (B) T McGovern 5-10-11	F Leahy (5)
16	00-0	ZANDALEE 24 G Yardley 6-10-11	I Lawrence
17		FLYING IMP 338 R Hollinshead 4-10-7	S Wynne (3)
18	5243	KALASADI 14 Miss J Doyle 4-10-7	S Curran (3)

4-1 Huge Mistake, 5-1 Insd, 6-1 Millmount, Do Rightly, 7-1 Myland, 8-1 Kalasadi, Unsinkable Boxer, 12-1 others.

2.50 EASTGATE NOVICES CHASE (£3,656: 2m) (5)

1	D/P	BLACK HORSE LAD 3 (S) Mrs J Retter 11-11-2	S Burrough
2	F540	FINKLE STREET 45 G Hubbard 7-11-2	A Thornton
3	0-P0	MR DRUMMOND 51 A Jarvis 6-11-2	A Jones
4	4P55	NADIAD 14 (V,F,G) D McCain 9-11-2	D McCain
5	20SP	SUNGIA 14 N Bridgwater 6-11-2	J Lodder

5-4 Yorkist, 5-2 Finkle Street, 5-1 Mr Drummond, Sungia, 8-1 Black Horse Lad

3.20 EMSCOTT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,103: 2m) (10)

1	0215	FOX CHAPEL 14 (B,C,D,G,S) R Jackes 8-11-10	N Jackes (5)
2	300/	FUTURE KING 678 (D,S) A Jarvis 8-11-7	G Crone (5)
3	5-4U	KATIE'S JOKER 93 O O'Neill 9-11-7	S Lyons
4	U134	ALICE'S MIRROR 26 (B,D,S,S) T McGovern 6-11-2	F Leahy
5	P/4	SUREN 19 (G,S) Mrs J Retter 9-11-1	S Fox
6	0421	BARDAISH 30 (S) M Barraclough 8-11-1	Chris Webb (5)
7	3622	MUST BE MAGICAL 7 P Bradley 7-10-10	S Wynne
8	FPPP	CYPRUS 10 (D,F,G) Miss J Doyle 7-10-8	S Curran
9	-300	AL SKEET 45 (D,F) R Price 9-10-5	T Jenks
10	024-	ROYAL GLINT 288 H Haynes 6-10-5	E Tolhurst (7)

7-2 Fox Chapel, 4-1 Alice's Mirror, 5-1 Suren, 6-1 Katie's Joker, Bardaish, 7-1 Must Be Magical, 8-1 Royal Glint, 14-1 others.

3.50 CRUDWELL CUP
(Handicap chase: £6,840: 3m 5f) (8)

1	104P	SIBTON ABBEY 35 (B,C,F,G,S) G Hubbard 10-11-10	A Thornton
2	1211	WILLSFORD 14 (CD,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 12-11-9	R Farrant
3	30-0	ALL JEFF 10 (B,F,G,S) C Brooks 11-11-2	G Bradley
4	2143	NATIVE PRIDE 14 (B,F,G,S) K Bailey 8-10-11	S McNeill
5	0-FU	RUFUS 14 (B,S) B Smart 9-10-6	A Tory
6	P11F	HILL TRIX 8 (G,S) V Bishop 9-10-1	T Jenks
7	4566	SQUIRE JIM 107 (B,F,S) N Twiston-Davies 17-10-0	D Gallagher
8	P-F3	STIRRUP CUP 25 (G,S) C Egerton 11-10-0	D Bridgwater

6-4 Willsford, 7-2 Native Pride, 5-1 Hill Trix, 7-1 Stirrup Cup, 8-1 All Jeff, 10-1 Sibton Abbey, 12-1 others.

4.20 BLACKDOWN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£5,118: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1	-224	SUN SURFER 14 (BF,G,S) T Forster 7-10-7	R Farrant
2	-540	ACROW LINE 36F (S) D Burchell 10-10-6	D J Burchell
3	1504	HAWAIIAN YOUTH 14 (G,S) P Haslam 7-10-[illegible]	2nd pref
4	4103	MUSICAL MONARCH 38 (CD,G,S) C Brittain 9-10-1	M Richards
5	2521	DIWALI DANCER 7 (D,G,S) J Bailey 5-10-0	T Kent
6	0064	MOUNTSHANNON 45 (D,F,G) D Thom 9-10-0	D Gallagher

2-1 Sun Surfer, 5-2 Musical Monarch, 3-1 Diwali Dancer, 6-1 Acrow Line, 7-1 Hawaiian Youth, 16-1 Mountshannon

4.55 TOWN OF WARWICK FOXHUNTERS TROPHY (Hunters chase: £1,134: 3m 2f)

1	-133	ESPY 14P (F,G,S) C Brooks 10-12-[illegible]	E James (7)
2	2-3F	MR MURDOCK 10 (F,G,S) [illegible]	P Henley (7)
3	5P-	ARDESEE 338P (D,F,G,S) [illegible]	A Wadge (7)
4	023-	ARTFUL ARTHUR 275 (S) [illegible]	J Greasley (7)
5	U-P5	CONDE FOLEY 10 [illegible]	T Greasley (7)
6	460-	ZAHRAH 7 (F) J Bradley 4-10-4	R Johnson (5) 10
7	05-5	FENTON BRIDGE 305 [illegible]	D Bridgwater (7)

4-6 Espy, 7-2 Mr Murdock, 7-1 Artful Arthur, 8-1 Ardesee, 10-1 others

5.25 EDSTONE MARES ONLY OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,445: 2m)

1		BEL PROPOSE [illegible]	Mr P Bowen (7)
2		BRIERY DALE [illegible]	[illegible]
3		CATATTOU [illegible]	[illegible]
4	5	EQUICURITY 24 [illegible]	E Byrne
5		GEABAA'S WAREER [illegible]	[illegible]
6		GLENGARRY GIRL [illegible]	[illegible]
7	0-	HAZEL GALE 326 [illegible]	[illegible]
8	0	JOY JUSTICE 139 [illegible]	[illegible]
9	0	LANDSKIER STAR 108 [illegible]	[illegible]
10		MERJLENA [illegible]	[illegible]
11	0	LIBLY LE MOSS 77 [illegible]	[illegible]
12		MISS BRECKNELL [illegible]	[illegible]
13		MISWISKERS [illegible]	[illegible]
14		PARTY BEDLAM [illegible]	[illegible]
15		QUICK QUOTE [illegible]	[illegible]
16	00-	STAC-POLLARD 285 [illegible]	[illegible]
17	0	TELLICHERRY 49 [illegible]	[illegible]
18		THE ANGEL LEE [illegible]	[illegible]
19	5	VALLEY'S CHOICE 9 [illegible]	[illegible]
20		VENDEE 11 [illegible]	[illegible]
21	0-0	WHAT'S THE JOKE 25 [illegible]	[illegible]
22	0	COUNTRY MOUSE 9 [illegible]	[illegible]
23		FORTUNES GLEAM [illegible]	[illegible]
24		LILLY THE FILLY [illegible]	[illegible]

5-2 Miss Brecknell, 3-1 Erben Gale, The Angel Lee, 5-1 Bridgen Gale, 10-1 Equicurity, 16-1 Fortunes Gleam, Hazel Gale, others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Price, 5 winners from 17 runners, 29.4%, M Pipe, 34 from 136, 22.0%, S Christian, 6 from 28, 21.4%, O Brennan, 6 from 47, 12.8%, Miss P Knight, 5 from 34, 14.7%

JOCKEYS: J P McNeill, 5 winners from 13 rides, 38.5%, J Carroll, 3 from 20, 15%, B Doyle, 26 from 136, 19.1%, C Maude, 12 from 90, 13.3%, Stephen Davies, 13 from 142, 12.6%, S Sanders, 12 from 98, 12.2%

Meetings in doubt

THE fixtures at Newbury, Doncaster and Warwick today are threatened by the weather. Newbury will inspect at 7.30 after the loss of yesterday's meeting to waterlogging. Doncaster (7.30) and Warwick (8.00) are at risk from overnight frost. Kelso yesterday fell to frost.

Weld books Dwyer for title hope

MARK DWYER will ride Fortune And Fame in the Smurfit Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham a week on Tuesday. The freelance rider attempts to repeat last year's triumph in the race with Flakey Dove.

"I was told I'd got the ride in a phone call from Dermot Weld's office last night and I'm delighted," Dwyer said yesterday.

Dwyer partnered Fortune And Fame — owned by the big-race sponsor, Dr Michael Smurfit — to victory in the Irish Champion Hurdle at Fairyhouse in January. "I was delighted with him that day," Dwyer said. "Connections were also very pleased with him. They felt he would improve quite a bit for the run."

Dwyer will partner Fortune And Fame in a workout before racing at Leopardstown tomorrow.

Tim Forster has paid tribute to the 1980 Grand National winner, Ben Nevis, 27, who was put down in Maryland earlier this week after a bout of colic.

Forster said: "I never compare my National winners but Ben Nevis was a very good horse the day he won it — he won in a canter and could have gone round again. He had a happy retirement as he didn't run again after the National."

Ben Nevis was a leading jumper in the United States when trained by Jonathan Sheppard and won the Maryland Hunt Cup twice.

Sent to Britain in 1979, he gave Forster the second of three successes in the Grand National the following year when, as a 40-1 chance, he was ridden by his owner, Charlie Fenwick, to beat Rough And Tumble by 20 lengths.

The death of Ben Nevis comes six weeks after that of Rubstic, who won the 1979 National — in which Ben Nevis unseated his rider.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Pillow Talk. 7.30 Kirov Protege. 8.00 Charlie Bigtime. 8.30 Keeper's Grey. 9.00 Samson-Agonistes. 9.30 Crystal Loop.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

7.00 BUTCHER AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£2,814: 1m 1f 79yd) (12 runners)

1	-104	AITCH N'BEE 29 (CD,G,S) Lady Herries 12-11-7	Mrs M Crowdrey 11
2	342-	QUEENS STROLLER 45J (G) C C Elsey 4-11-5	Miss A Elsey (5) 9
3	2412	SLIP A COIN 3 (CD,G) I Campbell 4-10-10	J L Llewellyn 4
4	-295	PILLOW TALK 18 (F) K Burke 4-10-9	Mrs E Burke (7) 3
5	220-	BALIMARA 94 W Haggas 4-10-6	Mrs L Pearce 2
6	460-	ZAHRAH 7 (F) J Bradley 4-10-4	R Johnson (5) 10
7	000-	NORTHERN CHIEF 148 (F,S) R Emery 5-10-3	I McLellend (5) 5
8	030-	SWYNFORD FLYER 102 (CD,F,G) J A Harris 6-10-3	C Bonner 7
9	5P50	EDUCATED PET 12 (C,G,S) E Pearce 6-10-0	Miss L Boswell (7) 1
10	5455	ROYAL ACCLAIM 7 (V,F,G,S) J Pearce 10-9-11	Miss D McHale (5) 8
11	500-	RAVE-ON-HADLEY 79 (G) S Dow 5-9-10	Mrs S J Campion (7) 6
12	0 0	JONGEL 26 T Clement 7-9-0	V Lukaniuk (5) 12

7-4 Aitch N'Bee, 5-2 Slip A Coin, 5-1 Balimara, 6-1 Zahrah, 8-1 Queens Stroller, Royal Acclaim, 10-1 Police Tale, 12-1 others

7.30 BLACKSMITH CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: 1m 1f 79yd) (4)

1	0-05	CHADLEIGH WALK 10 R Hollinshead 8-7	T Ives 2
2	31-4	WHAT A NIGHTMARE 10 (C,G) J Glover 8-5	Dean McKeown 3
3	2512	KIROV PROTEGE 10 (B,G) R Armstrong 5-4	W Woods 1
4	3521	POLY ROAD 2 (G) M Channon 8-0	P P Murphy (5) 4

7-4 What A Nightmare, 2-1 Poly Road, 5-2 Kirov Protege, 5-1 Chadleigh Walk.

8.00 WHEELWRIGHT HANDICAP
(£2,788: 1m 4f) (11)

1	2154	SALBUS 14 (CD,G) F Yardley 5-10-0	J Quinn 10
2	-133	PREMIER DANCE 3 (CD,F,G) D Haydn Jones 8-9-4	S Drowne (5) 11
3	3101	AWESTRUCK 17 (CD,F,G,S) B Preece 5-8-8	G Duffield 4
4	510-	HILL FARM DANCER 254 (CD,F,G) W Brisbourne 4-8-6	A Garth (5) 8
5	-421	MR BEAN 8 (CD,G) K Burke 5-8-8	M Fenton 5
6	-033	WINN'S PRIDE 8 (S) R Hollinshead 4-8-7	T Ives 2
7	5-05	SACRED MIRROR 7 C Brittain 4-8-6	B Doyle 1
8	6464	CHARLIE BIGTIME 11 (CD,F,G) B McMath 5-8-2	A Mackay 6
9	000-	PETTJEAN 571 D Burchell 4-8-0	Stephen Davies 3
10	03/	HOMEMAKER 653 (F,S) P Murphy 5-7-12	R Wakefield (7) 9
11	-00	CLASSIC EXHIBIT 3 A Forbes 6-7-7	G Bardwell 7

3-1 Mr Bean, 7-2 Awestruck, 9-2 Premier Dance, 6-1 Sacred Mirror, 7-1 Hill Farm Dancer, 8-1 Charlie Bigtime, 10-1 Winn's Pride, 12-1 others.

8.30 GROCER MAIDEN HANDICAP
(£2,433: 7f) (11)

1	205-	NOBLE NEPTUNE 119 W Musson 3-9-10	P McCabe (5) 3
2	-306	DYNAMIS 9 K Cunningham-Brown 4-9-9	A Clark 8
3	-325	MITE-OWL DANCER 12 (BF) J A Harris 3-9-8	G Duffield 11
4	-235	SANDRA DEE 9 B Pearce 3-9-7	S Sanders (5) 1
5	0/0	LUNAR PRINCE 89 T Clement 5-9-7	A Mackay 5
6	02-3	KEEPER'S GREY 57 (B) R Guest 3-9-6	D Harrison 7
7	460-	LA DAMA 135 G Oldroyd 3-9-5	M McAndrew 6
8	0805	ARROGANT BOY 8 D Chapman 6-9-1	Dean McKeown 10
9	400-	MISS KATE LOUISE 254 A James 4-8-11	J Quinn 4
10	00-0	BRIGADORE GOLD 29 (B) A Bailey 5-8-5	L Charnock 9
11	0050	CRAFTY CRICKETER 7 F Floyd 4-8-0	C Adamson (7) 2

3-1 Keeper's Grey, 4-1 Sandra Dee, 5-1 Yoo-Dal Dancer, 6-1 Arrogant Boy, 8-1 Dynamis, Noble Neptune, 10-1 Le Dame, 12-1 Dora

9.00 COBBLER SELLING STAKES (£2,095: 5f) (4 runners)

1	1623	VERY DICEY 14 (CD,F,G,S) [illegible]	P Roberts (7) 4
2	5436	FARFLU 14 (S,D,F,G) [illegible]	D Harrison 3
3	3200	SAMSON-AGONISTES 28 (CD,F,G,S) [illegible]	A Clark 1
4	0000	PAT POINDESTRES 9 [illegible]	S Sanders (5) 2

5-4 Very Dicey, 7-4 Farflu, 4-1 Samson-Agonistes, 6-1 Pat Poindestres

9.30 BAKER HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,775: 6f) (11)

1	5214	CRYSTAL [illegible]	[illegible]
2	5206	ROCK [illegible]	[illegible]
3	1154	WAT [illegible]	[illegible]
4	0-53	HADAWAY [illegible]	[illegible]
5	500-	JET CLASS 139 [illegible]	[illegible]
6	00-1	SHARP [illegible]	[illegible]
7	5-02	TEKKEN AMELIA 12 [illegible]	[illegible]
8	20-0	HO PAS SURPRISE 24 [illegible]	[illegible]
9	-562	IVY LILIAN 14 [illegible]	[illegible]
10	6650	LAWNSWOOD LADY 23 [illegible]	[illegible]

5-1 Tekkenamelia, 6-1 Jet Class, 7-1 Crystal Dove, 8-1 Hadaway, 9-1 Rockcracker, 5-1 Ivy Lilian, 10-1 Lawnswood Lady, others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: W Haggas, 5 winners from 15 runners, 33.3%, J Glover, 3 from 22, 18.2%, J A Harris, 4 from 23, 13.2%, C Brittain, 4 from 23, 17.4%, A Bailey, 19 from 115, 16.5%, J Berry, 19 from 119, 15.9%

JOCKEYS: W Woods, 6 winners from 19 rides, 31.6%, Antoinette Sanders, 3 from 14, 21.4%, G Duffield, 10 from 47, 21.3%, D Harrison, 9 from 66, 13.6%, A Clark, 11 from 90, 12.2%

Point-to-point fixtures

TODAY: Brocklesby, Brocklesby Park, 10 miles west of Grimsby (first race 2.00); Cheddington, Leconsfield and Cowdray, Farnham, 4m SE of Pulborough (12.45); Dunston, Ampton, 4m N of Bury St Edmunds, (12.30); Sinnington, Dalecombe Park, 1m SW of Helmsley (12.30); Tynedale, Eyton-on-Severn, 7m SE of Shrewsbury (12.00); Tynedale, Corbridge, 5m N of town (12.30).

TOMORROW: Cambridge University, Cottenham, 4m N of Cambridge (12.00); South Dorset, Milborne St Andrew, midway between Blandford and Dorchester (12.00)

2.10 ZOE HURWORTH WILL YOU MARRY ME? MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,650: 7f) (7 runners)

101	20-2	CHEWIT 42 A Moore 9-0	Candy Morris 5
102	520-	DANCE KING 151 J Banks 9-0	J Quinn 2
103	2-	LYFORD LAW 141 J Gosden 9-0	J Carroll 7
104	42	CONSIDERABLE CHARM 16 Lord Huntingdon 8-9	D Harrison 1
105	06-	GOVERNOR'S LASS 63 (E) S Dow 8-9	Stephen Davies 6
106	3-33	SOLIANNA 9 M Channon 8-9	C Rutter 3
107	3-5	TAEL OF SILVER 56 K Burke 8-9	M Fenton 1

6-4 Lyford Law, 4-1 Considerable Charm, 5-1 Solianna, 6-1 Chewit, 7-1 Dance King, 8-1 Tael Of Silver, 25-1 Governor's Lass

2.40 TAURUS CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,701: 1m) (7)

201	1133	GULF SHAADI 14 (C,G) C Brittain 9-1	B Doyle 5
202	00-	KETCHICAN 157 S Knight 8-7	D Harrison 1
203	50-6	SCISSOR RIDGE 9 (G) J Bridger 8-7	S Sanders (3) 7
204	4	CALL TOPHORSE 14 P Haslam 8-5	Nicola Howarth (7) 2
205	3-43	CHASTLETON 12 M Channon 8-2	Candy Morris 4
206	2114	MAZILLA 34 (D,BF,S) W Haggas 7-12	N Varley (5) 3
207	0-05	ROYAL UPRISING 23 S L Moore 7-10	J Quinn 6

5-4 Gulf Shaadi, 6-4 Mazilla, 7-1 Chastleton, 8-1 Call Tophorse, 12-1 Scissor Ridge, 16-1 Royal Uprising, 25-1 Ketchican

3.10 CAPRICORN HANDICAP (£5,550: 1m) (7)

301	-222	ERTLON 17 (CD,F,G) C Egerton 5-10-0	B Doyle 1
302	310-	DUNE RIVER 182 (CD,F,G) D Lodge 6-9-11	D R McCabe (3) 2
303	-122	RED VALERIAN 21 (B,CD,F,G) K McAuliffe 4-9-8	J Tate (5) 3
304	12-1	SILENT EXPRESSION 53 (C,D,F,G) B Meehan 5-9-6	J Carroll 6
305	1211	PERILOUS FLIGHT 7 (CD,F,G) W Haig 4-8-12	D Harrison 7
306	01-6	SECOND CHANCE 52 (C,D,F,G,S) P Mitchell 5-8-11	S Sanders (3) 5
307	2-53	MR NEVERMIND 42 (C,F,G) G L Moore 5-8-10	S Whitworth 4

7-2 Dune River, 7-1 Silent Expression, 8-1 Perilous Flight, 9-1 Red Valerian, 7-1 Mr Nevermind, 10-1 Second Chance

3.45 DAILY STAR AWT 1M 2F CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP (Qualifier: 3-Y-O: £3,164: 1m 2f) (9)

301	221	SHAFT OF LIGHT 29 (V,G) Lord Huntingdon 3-7	D Harrison 9
302	1329	GOOD SO FA 21 (C,G) C Brittain 3-9-1	M Baird (5) 4
303	00-1	BAKERS DAUGHTER 16 (B) J Arnold 3-8	J Quinn 6
304	3543	WITNEY-DE-BERGERAC 18 (G) J Gosden 3-8-5	S Drowne (5) 2
305	6-42	DOCKLANDS COURIER 21 P Mitchell 3-7	T Ives 3
306	30-2	NEVER SO RITE 16 (F) D Arbuthnot 5-8	B Doyle 7
307	000-	SPRINGLOADS 84 M Bell 3-8-5	S Sanders (3) 5
308	-311	SUMMER VILLA 10 (G) P Haslam 5-8	J Stack (5) 1
309	0-62	AL COMANCHE 16 (F) T Cunningham-Brown 5-12	Stephen Davies 8

11-4 Shaft Of Light, 7-2 Summer Villa, 9-2 Never So Rite, 5-1 Bakers Daughter, 7-1 Al Comanche, 8-1 Good So Fa, 10-1 others

4.15 RAPPORTEUR CONDITIONS STAKES
(£3,589: 1m 2f) (4)

501	125-	IONIO 175 (F,G) C Brittain 5-4-5	B Doyle 4
502	20-1	YOUNG FREEMAN 9 (CD,F,G) D Lodge 6-9-0	D R McCabe (3) 1
503	0-	IRISH EMERALD 255J (D,S) G Brown 3-8-12	S Whitworth 2
504	042-	LATAHAAB 154 (S) S Seemar 4-9-1	G Carter 3

4-6 Ionio, 7-4 Young Freeman, 5-1 Latahaab, 16-1 Irish Emerald

4.45 LINGFIELD PARK AWT SPRINT SERIES HANDICAP (Qualifier: £3,706: 6f) (8)

601	60-0	PERSIAN AFFAIR 3 (C,F,G) D Haydn Jones 4-10-0	A Mackay 4
602	34-0	MACS MAHARANEE 9 (D,F,G) P Felgate 5-9-13	J Stack (5) 8
603	00-0	BOLD STREET 17 (B,C,D,G,S) A Bailey 5-9-5	S Whitworth 1
604	4411	TYRIAN PURPLE 9 (B,C,D,F,G,S) T Naughton 7-9-3	D Harrison 3
605	3064	INVOCATION 7 (C,D,F,G) A Moore 5-9-0	T Williams 5
606	300-	ASSIGNMENT 196 (C,D,F,G) J Ryan-Heslop 3-8-12	B Doyle 2
607	00	MARTINOSKY 539J (C,D,F,G) G Brown 3-8-6	G Carter 6
608	-525	SWEET WHISPER 4 (V,CD,G) T Mitchell 4-7-13	J Quinn 7

7-4 Tyrian Purple, 11-4 Invocation, 4-1 Sweet Whisper, 5-1 Bold Street, 10-1 Persian Affair, Macs Maharanee, 12-1 Assignment, 20-1

Liverpool offer test of a dramatic recovery in race for Premiership prize

Keegan revives Newcastle's challenge

Louise Taylor believes a half-time team talk may be a turning point on Tyneside this season





Beardsley, left, and Venison have reinforced the link between the dominant Liverpool of old and the resurgence of the new Newcastle

LAST Saturday, at about 3.45pm, Kevin Keegan decided that the time had come to "have words" with Newcastle United's players. With his side drawing 1-1 with Aston Villa, the Newcastle manager devoted half-time to delivering some home truths. "I told them if they had given up any hope of winning the championship, just carrying on as in the first half would be fine, but that if they still wanted to challenge for it, their act needed to be got together — and fast," he said.

Presumably presented with a rather less politely paraphrased version of this message, the Newcastle players rose to the challenge. Forty-five minutes later, Villa trudged off the pitch at St James' Park as 3-1 losers: a result that, should Newcastle win at Liverpool this afternoon, may come to be seen as a defining moment in Newcastle's season.

For the first time in months, talk of catching Manchester United and Blackburn Rovers at the top of the FA Carling Premiership is no longer taboo at the club's tree-lined training ground, set in undulating countryside outside Durham. Indeed, the chat among executive supporters flying back from a convincing midweek win at Ipswich drifted towards a possible Newcastle league and FA Cup double. It may have been champagne-induced optimism, but Tyneside bookmakers are accepting such bets. Keegan's team is back on Merseyside for an FA Cup quarter-final against Everton tomorrow week.

Six points behind Manchester United and nine adrift of Blackburn Rovers, they still have some considerable catching up to do, but, if not quite placing Newcastle on the cusp of glory, victory at Anfield would provoke alarm in the North West.

Mathematically championship contenders themselves, Liverpool are looking forward to putting four old boys in their place. Keegan, Terry McDermott, his assistant, and the two of the team's key figures, Barry Venison and Peter Beardsley, all return to the ground where they spent formative seasons.

One of the recurring themes of Keegan's managerial regime at St James' Park has, in fact, been his desire to turn Newcastle into "a club like the Liverpool I played for". References to Bill Shankly punctuate his press conferences and Keegan has even recreated a Newcastle "boot room", comprising McDermott, Derek Fazakerley, the first team coach, and Arthur Cox, another of his mentors.

Beardsley, too, has a special place in Keegan's heart. He scored Newcastle's second-half goals against Villa, both after mesmerising dribbles, and the manager said of his favourite striker: "Of all the players in the world, only Peter could have scored that last goal." Nevertheless, Keegan is sufficiently hard-headed to have had "a few private words" with Beardsley during that decisive half-time talk. "The trouble with Peter is that sometimes he's so enthusiastic that he wants to do everything, to chase the ball the ball boys should be looking after," Keegan said.

Liverpool season ticket-holders would have appreciated a bit more of this eager-beavering attitude from some sullen players disaffected during the time of Graeme Souness's management. Even now, Roy Evans, his successor, could still do worse than use Beardsley as a role model.

Nobody could ever accuse Venison of an apathetic approach, but Anfield regulars did question his ability during the days when he was in and out of their team at right back. Re-invented by Keegan — who bought him for a modest £250,000 — as an anchoring midfielder or central defender, Venison is arguably Newcastle's player of the season and a recently-capped England international operating just in front of the back four.

Keegan has never had trouble expressing his views, whether analysing for television or when talking about his beloved Newcastle, but, just lately, a critical note has crept into his assessments. Where once this most fiercely protective of managers refused to countenance any criticism of his protégés, a degree of blame is now placed squarely on individuals' shoulders. Last week, it was Steve Howey's turn, the central defender being fined for conceding a needless booking.

Still far from afraid to dispense lavish praise — he repeatedly describes Keith Gillespie as Britain's most exciting young player in years — Keegan chastises too. Accordingly, he "gets at" Gillespie when the young winger sometimes fails to "look up and play the early cross".

Such minor quibbles are merely intended to smooth the rough edges Keegan the player once worked so hard to erase from his own game; to speed the sort of improvements that resulted in his becoming an England international rather than simply a solid club player.

They might just make the difference between Newcastle winning a trophy or settling for a glamorous loser's role come May.

Football finds its soul with foreign aid



ROB HUGHES
Weekend View

In sport, it is better to trust what you see rather than what someone tells you. The week began with John Morris, the secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, wretchedly trying to compare the risks of pugilism to football. He, the defender of the indefensible, was speaking on Sunday morning after another of his board's licensed bouts of brain beating had put a healthy individual onto a life-support system.

"My lad is playing football today," Morris said. "He takes that risk, including, by the way, head injuries. We know the dangers, they are there."

Football is guilty of a lot of things, but intentionally inflicting harm to the brain is not one of them. By Tuesday, however, Morris appeared to have a point. There is, indeed, the risk of cerebral damage if one goes to Bruges without a ticket and comes under the cosh of the Belgian gendarmerie.

By Wednesday, at last, the soul of the game began to strike blows for its good name and nature. Down at The Dell, Southampton and Tottenham Hotspur put on 120 minutes of the most bewitching football drama. For unpredictability, it must have rivalled anything down the century and more of FA Cup lore. Who will forget the night of Ronnie Rosenthal, coming on not fully fit after knee injury, his side two goals down ... and the Israeli scoring three times, three left-footed goals from angles or distances that defied logic.

This former soldier, 31, talks fast and with a degree of charm, but he could not explain, for nobody could, the intuition that impels a man to ignore team-mates, to shoot for goal quicker than it takes the brain to form an idea and transmit the message to the feet. This hero at The Dell had come all the way along the road from Maccabi Haifa to White Hart Lane, to hear Gerry Francis, his manager, assert: "We've just had a little bar mitzvah dance in the dressing-room."

Words and pictures out of synch: if anything could transcend the hat-trick, it was the sportsmanship with which Southampton supporters in their thousands stood to applaud the conqueror of their team. What an old-fashioned night of beauty to weigh against the sores of the national game.

Then came Thursday, a snowstorm over Highbury, and another beguiling foreigner. Guy Roux, 56, is the coach of A J Auxerre, and his team had matched Arsenal with just enough power to negate the Cup Winners' Cup holders; but the French team contained genuinely gifted players, too. Where do they come from? "I am not a man of impatient nature," Roux said, smiling. "I work and work until something comes at the end of it."

For 33 years, he has toiled on behalf of A J Auxerre. The initials refer to the youth on which the club is founded, and it was interesting, to put it mildly, to sit with Roux on the day that the Darlington manager became the 35th club coach in England to lose his job this season — as well as the 21st former Darlington manager in the time that Roux has maintained his position at Auxerre.

Maybe that is why Darlington flounder. Roux, having talked his way into the job of running the club single-handed, for £60 a week, in 1961, insisted that there would be a philosophy of patience, and his own school where he would personally groom players. These have included Eric Cantona and Basile Boli, players subsequently sold for millions of pounds.

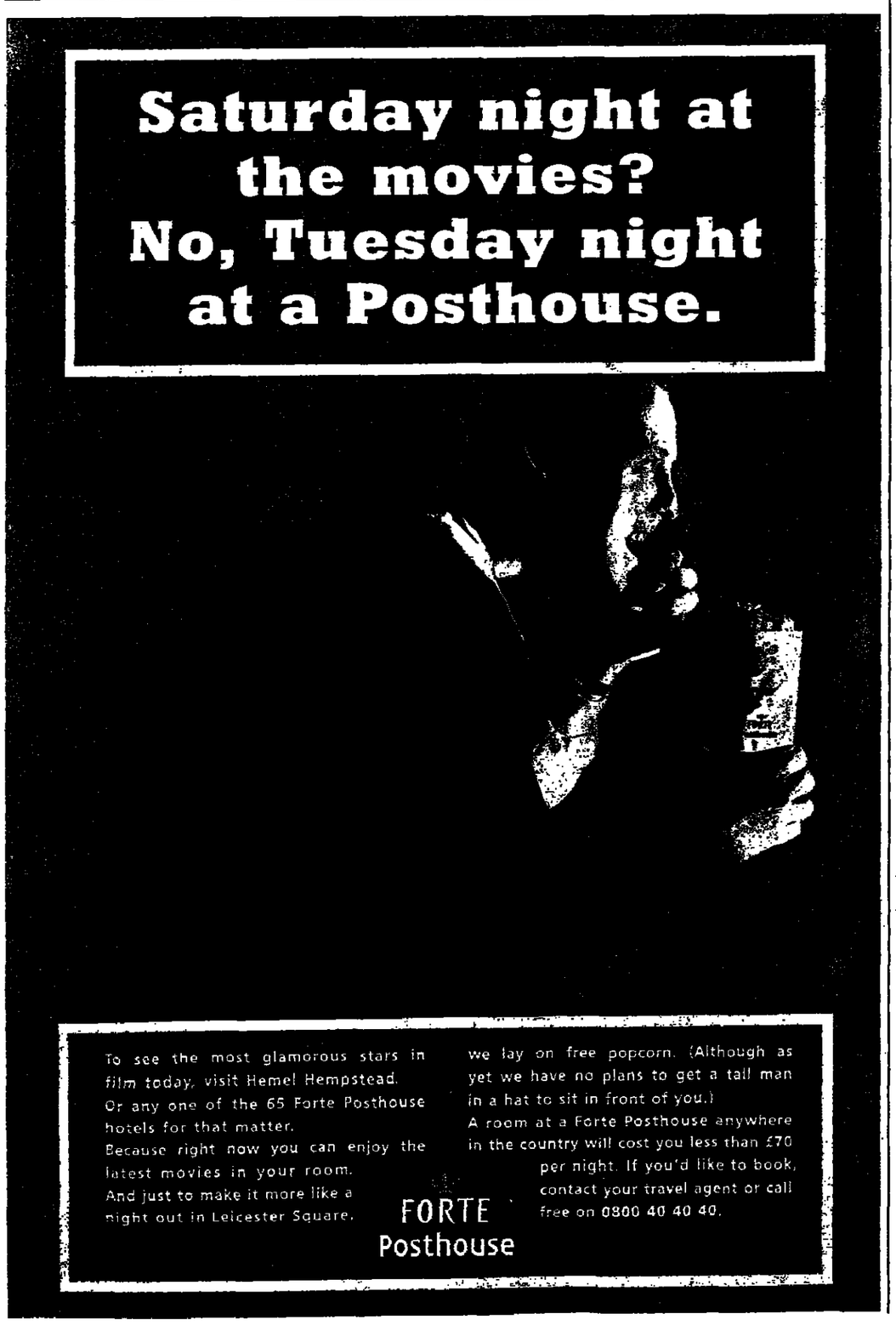
Roux reasons that there could be no other way. His club needs the resources, he could never break the pay structure to keep the talents, and so he thanks them and hopes they become very rich and fulfilled individuals. And if not? That is where Roux gives so much back. The boys who enter his club might as well be signing on for an order of monks. Their dedication has to be total.

In return, he offers the parents something rather precious — he pledges that he will back his judgment that the boy will make a footballer, that they will not be discarded, in the manner of British clubs, at 16 or 17, and that Roux and his teachers will impart to them everything that they know at least until the age of 20.

Thus, with patience again the key, he sees them through the vagaries of youth, and thus two-thirds of his teams tend to contain players who have grown like the vine in Burgundy.

Romantic? Not if one took a careful look at some of the 6ft defenders whose man-marking against Arsenal was as fierce (though not unduly unfair) as any raised in England. Stewart Houston, the temporary manager of Arsenal, brought refreshing humility to the marble halls, and admitted the qualities of the opponent.

He then uttered a pearl of manager-speak. "I warned my players about man-marking. I said: 'You'll have a gorilla up your backside, and you've got to handle it'!"



Free-spending Scots look to cross-border options

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

THE Old Firm are attempting to strengthen their sides by signing players from the FA Carling Premiership. Tommy Burns, the Celtic manager, confirmed yesterday that he is likely to bid for Nigel Clough, the Liverpool striker who is out of favour at Anfield, while Walter Smith, Burns's counterpart at Rangers, has had a £2.5 million offer for Gary McAllister, the Scotland captain, rejected by Leeds United.

Celtic's flaccid attack is in need of strengthening, and Burns has already travelled widely to watch players on the Continent. He believes that his team would benefit from a deep-lying forward able to act as a prompter. Clough, signed for Liverpool from Nottingham Forest for £2.275 million in 1993 by Graeme Souness, fits the description perfectly.

"Clough is one we are interested in, and we will be checking out the situation," Burns said. "He played very well for a passing team like Forest, and that is the style Celtic would like to play. He is made to measure for the sort of role played by Peter Beardsley [of Newcastle United]. It is a specialised position, and there are not many who can fill it."

Liverpool's system has altered with the emergence of Steve McManaman and Robbie Fowler. In consequence, Clough, 29 later this month, has had his first-team opportunities limited. His club would presumably expect to recoup its outlay on the player, who has won 14 caps for England, but even if a deal could be struck with Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, Clough would still have to be persuaded to move to Scotland and a club in the throes of reconstruction.

Nonetheless, Burns has a considerable budget for the programme. He has already spent a total of £3 million to sign Phil O'Donnell, from Motherwell, and Pierre van Hooydonk, a Dutchman, from NAC Breda. The success of a recent share issue, which raised more than £9 million from supporters alone, means that Burns may still have around £5 million available to him for players.



Clough: Celtic target

While reluctance on Clough's part would be understandable, a transfer to his homeland might carry greater appeal to McAllister. Rangers, with an eye to European regulations and their own playing limitations, naturally wish to purchase a Scottish midfield player. Smith said: "Leeds United seem more eager to buy than to sell."

Despite having had one offer rejected, though, it is likely that Rangers will pursue the matter. In the past, the club has waged lengthy — and costly — campaigns to sign players such as Duncan Ferguson. The sincerity of Leeds's desire to keep McAllister, 30, will be tested.

Having failed to buy one player, Rangers announced that they have lost another for the remainder of the season. David Robertson, their left back, will require surgery. He has a plate in his foot which was fitted to repair damage earlier in his career, and a screw was dislodged by a challenge in the Scottish Cup tie with Heart of Midlothian.

Ferguson puts his foot down

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ANDREI KANCHELSKIS, the Manchester United and Ukraine winger, has been told that he must stay at Old Trafford after reports that he demanded a transfer as a result of being left out of the United side last Saturday.

"There is no way he is leaving," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said yesterday. "I have had a chat with him and he understands why he was on the bench at Everton. It is a team game and the players have got to be rotated."

Kanchelskis has been quoted as saying: "I went to see the manager and I've asked for a transfer. I'm not happy. Not happy at all. I'm fit, there is no injury and I want to play."

Kanchelskis, United's leading scorer this season with 14 goals, was the subject of transfer speculation last season after being left out of the European Cup campaign because of the Uefa limit on foreign players.

That rift was healed and he signed a new contract shortly before the FA Cup Final.

☐ Paul Futcher, the former Luton Town and Manchester City defender, has been released by Grimsby Town to take over as the player-manager of Darlington.

'Concerned' Hamed will display no mercy

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

SATURDAY again, and it is big fight night. High-profile boxing, this time with Naseem Hamed, Prince Naseem Hamed, back on the television screens even though Gerald McClellan, the American super-middleweight who suffered brain damage in his bout last Saturday with Nigel Benn, still lies seriously ill in the Royal London Hospital.

However distasteful it may be to some to see another young man crashing onto their living room floor, business is business — and there is no business like the boxing business.

Hamed, the flamboyant super-bantamweight from Sheffield, will attempt to knock his opponent senseless at Livingston, Scotland, to-



Hamed: will be too quick

night. The victim, this time, of the unbeaten Yorkshireman, who has stopped 13 of his 15 opponents, will be Sergio Liendo, of Argentina.

Trevor East, the head of ITV Sport, said yesterday: "It would have been nice to have had a break, but people have paid money, boxers have trained and want to fight.

"We feel it's not our job to moralise. This was planned weeks ago and ITV are legally bound to cover it. It's thanks to TV money that there will be complete medical back up for this show, just like it always is. Less money means corners would be cut."

East said that he will be talking to Frank Warren, the promoter, to see that the production is treated "sensitively", which means keeping the boastful showboating of Hamed to a minimum. Brendan Ingle, Hamed's manager, said that his man would be suitably restrained before and during the bout.

"He will just do his somersault and no more," Ingle said. "He will just flip over the ropes and stand there, to show respect to McClellan and Benn. Naz is very concerned about McClellan and went to see him but couldn't, so he left his good wishes with the hospital staff."

It is pointless hoping that Hamed, 21, will go easy on the Argentinian, but, perhaps, he may stick to a neat display of boxing in view of last week. Hamed specialises in bashing people up until their "eyes are like slot machines — all over the place".

Ingle said: "It's like going on the production line in a factory and slowing down. You are going to get the sack. Let's not have all this hypocrisy. It's a job, like any other job. Naz is going to get in there and get on with it. His job is to get him out of there just as soon as possible.

"The other fellow has a good record. He's had 50 fights and knocked out a lot of his opponents. He's come here looking to kill Naz. Naz is going to have to stop him doing that. He is going to have to block out of his mind what happened to McClellan."

Despite Ingle's claim that Liendo has come to fight, the Argentinian is not regarded as a puncher, even though he has won state, national and South American titles and is ranked No 8 in the World Boxing Council rankings. He is considered durable, has never been stopped and has got off the floor to win.

Clearly, though, he is likely to find himself on the floor again. Hamed predicts that he will stop Liendo in three rounds. Since Liendo has neither the speed to lay a glove on Hamed nor the firepower to hold him off, expect the Sheffield man to hold up Liendo then finish him off spectacularly, according to his prediction.



Wright liked basketball so much that he bought a half share in his own club. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Wright relaxes among the Sharks

Nicholas Harling on the impact being made by the new breed of basketball club owners

If it was not the most popular move of last summer, it has certainly turned out to be the most successful. Not everyone applauded the Basketball League's decision to admit a new franchise into its Budweiser League, least of all the top clubs in the first division, who were queue-jumped by Sheffield Sharks after believing that they had done enough to deserve promotion.

However, with British basketball revolving around more than just performances on court, the Sharks took their place among the elite in the autumn simply because they possessed the right facilities, the potential, and most important of all, the money.

The league could not afford to ignore the donation of £100,000, injected into the new venture by the Crysalis Television Company and the Australia-based Mushroom Record Company, and if vindication is needed, it only takes a glance at the Budweiser League table. The Sharks have snapped their way to the top, and, tomorrow night, at the Sheffield Arena, take on Thames Valley Tigers, the defending champions, in the National Cup Final, a repeat of the confrontation two months ago in the 7-Up Trophy Final, won narrowly by the Tigers.

Like Harvey Goldsmith, the impressario whose Leopards team has enjoyed a successful first campaign, and Barry Marshall, the pop promoter who has seen London Towers improve since he took over late last season — they overwhelmed the Sharks 84-72 in a league game on Thursday — Chris Wright is one of a new breed of owners.

Wright, the chairman of Crysalis, had always been interested in the sport. His regular trips to the United States had invariably coincided with visits to see the likes of the Los Angeles Lakers or the New York Knicks. "I had also seen a lot on television, and when the Basketball League approached Crysalis with a view to putting it on television in England, they asked me why I didn't get involved in a team," he said.

Mike Smith, the league's chief executive, told Wright that, in Ponds Forge, Sheffield possessed an excellent facility. The only drawback was Wright's reluctance to part with £100,000. A chance conversation with Mike Gudinski, of Mushroom, resolved that snag. "Mike was at Wembley for the rugby league final and I was there for the basketball play-offs," Wright said. "I was having a drink with him, and when I told him I was thinking of buying a basketball club, he told me that the game had really taken off in Australia, with crowds of 15,000. He said he'd buy half with me."

Wright and Gudinski found themselves making frequent trips to Sheffield, a city with which neither had any previous connections. Getting there, either by road or rail, proved unexpectedly time-consuming, but the Sharks were soon to make the journeys worthwhile.

With the help of what Wright calls "a disparate multiracial bunch of skinny white guys and big black ones under a coach [Jim Brandon] who has done a brilliant job", Sheffield Sharks have quickly risen to the heights. Whether they can confirm the promise of their first season with a first piece of silverware tomorrow is a different matter.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Rugby league player dies from injuries

A RUGBY league player died in hospital in New Zealand yesterday from injuries he received during a match on Wednesday. Falani Latoa, who played for North Harbour, was taken to hospital after breaking his windpipe in a game against Auckland Warriors. Television replays showed several players scrambling for the ball and Latoa falling awkwardly on it. He received treatment on the field.

Graham Carden, the president of the New Zealand Rugby League, said that the league would call for a report into Latoa's death. Gary Cooksley, his team manager, said: "It is just tragic and very difficult to cope with. You could go to a million games and never see anything like this." A police spokesman said that officials would be interviewed "so we can get a complete picture of events leading up to the injury".

Captain in waiting

CRICKET: Javed Miandad has declared himself available for the Asia Cup tournament in Sharjah next month, arousing speculation that he might be willing to take on the captaincy of Pakistan again should Salim Malik, who is embroiled in allegations of bribery, step down. Javed, 37, the fourth-highest run-scorer in Test history, reversed a decision to retire last year after a request from Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, but a knee injury prevented him taking his place in the team.

English hopes high

SQUASH: England were assured of at least one semi-finalist in the Guernsey women's open championship when Cassandra Jackman and Sue Wright met in St Peter Port last night. Suzanne Horner's quarter-final against Claire Nitch, of South Africa, was expected to produce a second, and there were hopes that Linda Charman's unexpected but impressive advance to meet Sarah FitzGerald, of Australia, could provide a third. Michelle Martin, FitzGerald's compatriot and the defending champion, remains the favourite.

Two-wheelers at Aintree

CYCLING: One of the biggest fields in Britain this year lines up at Aintree racecourse tomorrow, not on four legs but on two wheels, for the 34th running of the 50-mile Eddie Soens handicap race. At final count, 174 riders were on the start list for the race on the tarmac road inside the Grand National circuit. In theory, if the handicappers prove correct, the entire field could form a cavalry-like charge for the line after two hours' racing. Matthew Illingworth, the winner in 1992 and last year, is not defending his title.

Changes prove fruitless

YACHTING: Despite unveiling last-minute changes that they hope will lift them into contention for the America's Cup, the French, Japanese and American all-women's crews all lost on the opening day of the final round-robin trials off San Diego to decide places in the semi-finals later this month. Leslie Egnot and her crew, racing their new boat, *Mighty Mary*, were out-smarted by Dennis Conner's *Stars & Stripes*, while there were also wins for Chris Dickson's New Zealand entry, *Tag Heuer*, and Russell Coutts's *Team New Zealand*.

Support for Kimberley

DRUGS IN SPORT: The case of James Kimberley, the schoolboy from Evesham who was banned for two years for taking a proscribed drug, has been taken up by Michael Spicer, his local MP. Spicer is to lobby Iain Sproat, the Minister for Sport, in the hope that pressure can be brought to bear on the International Modern Pentathlon Union to reconsider the ban before its annual congress on July 24. Kimberley, 17, claims that he was unaware that the drug, co-proxamol, contained a banned substance.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*
† morning pitch inspection

FA Carling Premiership
(1) †*Aston Villa v Blackburn*
(2) Leeds v Sheffield Wednesday
(3) Leicester v Everton
(4) Liverpool v Newcastle
(5) Manchester Utd v Ipswich
(6) Norwich v Manchester City
(7) **Nottingham Forest v Tottenham* ..
(8) Southampton v Coventry
(9) Wimbledon v QPR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	30	20	6	4	63	32	66
Man Utd	30	19	6	5	53	22	63
Newcastle	30	16	9	5	52	31	57
Liverpool	28	14	9	5	46	23	51
Nottm Forest	30	13	8	9	42	33	47
Leeds	28	11	10	7	35	28	43
Tottenham	28	12	7	9	46	40	43
Arsenal	30	10	10	10	35	32	40
Shelf Wed	30	10	9	11	39	40	39
Wimbledon	29	11	6	12	35	50	39
Aston Villa	31	9	11	11	46	45	38
Coventry	30	9	10	11	33	47	37
Chelsea	28	9	9	10	37	39	36
Norwich	29	9	9	11	27	33	36
Man City	29	9	9	11	37	44	36
Everton	30	8	10	12	30	39	34
QPR	27	8	8	11	40	46	32
Southampton	28	6	13	9	40	46	31
C Palace	29	7	9	13	21	31	30
West Ham	28	8	5	16	27	39	29
Ipswich	30	6	5	19	31	60	23
Leicester	29	4	8	17	31	54	20

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
(10) Barnsley v Oldham
(11) Bolton v Southend
(12) Burnley v West Bromwich
(13) Charlton v Notts County
(14) Grimsby v Swindon
(15) Luton v Millwall
(16) Middlesbrough v Bristol City
(—) Reading v Watford
(17) Sheffield Utd v Port Vale
(18) Stoke v Derby

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tranmere	33	17	8	8	54	36	59
Middlesbro	31	16	8	7	44	26	56
Bolton	32	15	9	8	53	35	54
Shelf Utd	33	14	11	8	56	38	53
Wolves	31	16	5	10	56	43	53
Reading	33	15	8	10	37	29	53
Grimsby	33	12	12	9	50	42	48
Watford	31	12	11	8	35	29	47
Barnsley	31	13	7	11	41	39	46
Millwall	31	11	11	9	40	37	44
Luton	32	12	8	12	45	45	44
Oldham	32	11	10	11	45	43	43
Derby	31	11	9	11	37	33	42
Stoke	30	10	10	10	32	35	40
Portsmouth	32	10	10	12	37	45	40
Sunderland	32	8	15	9	32	31	39
Charlton	31	10	9	12	43	47	39
Port Vale	30	10	8	12	37	40	38
West Brom	33	10	7	16	29	42	37
Southend	33	10	6	17	32	60	36
Bristol City	33	9	8	16	32	45	35
Swindon	31	8	9	14	37	52	33
Notts Co	33	7	8	18	36	48	29
Burnley	30	6	9	15	29	48	27

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton v Trowbridge, Crawley v Cheltenham, Dorchester v Hednesford, Gloucester v Corby, Gresley v Atherstone, Hastings v Gravesend and Northfl; Sudbury v Leek; VS Rugby v Solihull; Worcester v Chelmsford. Southern division: Bashley v Fareham; Basingstoke v Baldock; Burnham v Yate, Clevedon v Margate; Clevedon v Newport IOW; Havant v Ashford; Waterlooville v Erith and Belvedere; Weatherstone v Fisher 93; Weston-Super-Mare v Tonbridge AFC. Witney v Salisbury Midland division: Bilston v Armitage, Bridgnorth v Stourbridge; Dudley v Redditch; Evesham; King's Lynn v Sutton Coldfield; Leicester United v Nuneaton; Moor Green v Buckingham Town; Newport AFC v Bedworth; RC Warwick v Rothwell

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Rovers v Eastwood H, Bootle v Glossop North End, Burscough v Clitheroe, Chadderton v Bacup, Holker OB v Salford; Kidsgrove v Rossendale; Maine Road v Skelmersdale, Newcastle Town v Darwen Challenge Cup: Quarter-final: Atherton Collieries v Prescot, Nantwich v Bradford Park Avenue, Penrith v Trafford, Tetley Walker v St Helens

Second division
(19) Brentford v Crewe
(20) Bristol Rovers v Shrewsbury
(21) Cambridge Utd v Brighton
(22) Cardiff v Bournemouth
(23) Chester v Plymouth
(—) Huddersfield v Bradford
(24) Hull v Birmingham
(25) Leyton Orient v Oxford Utd
(26) Rotherham v Peterborough
(27) Wrexham v Blackpool
(28) Wycombe v Stockport
(29) York v Swansea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huddersfld	33	17	11	5	59	35	62
Birmingham	30	17	8	5	59	25	59
Brentford	32	18	5	9	62	30	59
Crewe	31	18	4	9	59	49	58
Oxford Utd	32	16	7	9	51	38	55
Wycombe	30	15	9	6	43	33	54
Blackpool	34	16	6	12	55	52	54
Hull	31	15	7	9	52	40	52
Bradford	32	14	8	10	47	45	50
Bristol R	29	12	11	6	46	29	47
York	31	14	5	12	47	37	47
Wrexham	30	12	10	8	39	43	46
Swansea	31	11	13	7	38	32	46
Stockport	32	13	5	14	45	45	44
Shrewsbury	32	10	9	13	44	43	39
Peterboro	31	9	11	11	40	56	38
Rotherham	31	9	10	12	41	43	37
Brighton	31	8	11	12	32	39	35
Camb Utd	32	7	12	13	41	55	33
Plymouth	31	8	5	18	32	63	29
Bournemth	33	7	7	19	33	61	28
Cardiff	31	6	8	19	31	53	24
Leyton Orient	31	5	6	20	24	49	21
Chester	33	3	8	22	27	65	17

Third division
(30) †Barnet v Torquay
(31) Carlisle v Northampton
(32) Chesterfield v Bury
(33) Colchester v Darlington
(34) Exeter v Mansfield
(35) Gillingham v Walsall
(36) Hereford v Fulham
(37) Lincoln v Hartlepool
(38) Preston v Doncaster
(39) Rochdale v Scarborough
(40) Wigan v Scunthorpe

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	33	20	8	5	51	18	68
Chesterfield	30	16	8	6	43	29	56
Walsall	26	14	8	4	46	26	50
Mansfield	30	15	4	11	61	40	49
Bury	28	14	6	8	39	20	48
Doncaster	30	13	8	9	38	24	47
Fulham	30	11	12	7	43	36	45
Preston	30	13	6	11	38	31	45
Scunthorpe	31	13	5	13	49	43	44
Colchester	30	12	8	10	39	44	44
Barnet	29	11	7	11	34	41	40
Torquay	30	10	9	11	41	43	39
Wigan	30	11	6	13	44	47	39
Lincoln	29	10	7	12	34	35	37
Rochdale	29	10	7	12	34	49	37
Darlington	29	10	6	13	35	39	36
Hereford	31	8	7	16	33	52	31
Exeter	29	8	7	14	26	45	31
Northmptn	30	6	10	14	31	44	28
Gillingham	29	7	6	16	30	45	27
Hartlepool	29	6	8	15	27	46	26
Scarboro	29	5	7	17	32	51	22

GM Vauxhall Conference
(—) Kettering v Bath
(—) Stafford v Telford
(—) Stalybridge v Bromsgrove
(—) Welling v Dagenham and Red
(—) Yeovil v Dover

UniBond League
Premier division
(41) Chorley v Buxton
(—) Frickley v Winsford
(—) Gainsborough v Bishop Auckland
(42) Horwich v Boston
(43) Knowsley v Barrow
(—) Matlock v Colwyn Bay
(—) Spennymoor v Droylsden
(44) Whitley Bay v Emley
(—) Witton v Accrington Stanley

First division: Altrelon v Atherton LR; Ashton United v Warrington, Blyth Spartans v Gt Harwood; Caernarlon v Radcliffe; Congleton v Gretna, Fleetwood Mossley; Lancaster v Bamber Bridge, Netherfield v Eastwood Town; Worksop v Goole

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
(—) Hibernian v Rangers
(45) Kilmarnock v Dundee Utd
(46) †Motherwell v Falkirk
(47) Partick v Hearts

First division
(48) Airdrie v Raith
(49) †Clydebank v Ayr
(50) Dundee v Hamilton
(51) †Dunfermline v St Johnstone
(52) Stranraer v St Mirren

Second division
(53) Berwick v Meadowbank
(54) Brechin v Stirling
(55) East Fife v Dumbarton
(56) Greenock Morton v Clyde
(57) Stenhousemuir v Queen of South

Third division
(58) Albion v Arbroath
(playing at Arbroath)
(—) †Alloa v Montrose
(—) Caley This v Cowdenbeath
(—) †East Stirling v Queen's Park
(—) Forfar v Ross County

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Third round: Enfield v Merthyr; Gateshead v Macclesfield, ** Ilkeston v Kidderminster; Marine v Boreham Wood, Morecambe v Altrincham, Runcorn v Hyde; Rushden and Diamonds v Halesowen (2.30), Stevenage v Woking.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Hendon; Bromley v Bishop's Stortford; Carshalton v Yeading, Dulwich v Wokingham; Grays v Harrow; Hayes v St Albans, Hitchin v Sutton United; Marlow v Kingstonian, Purfleet v Chesham, Walton and Hersham v Molesey. First division: Abingdon Town v Uxbridge Basingstoke v Leyton, Berkhamsted v Maidenhead, Billericay v Tooting and Mitcham, Bognor Regis v Newbury; Chertsey v Ruislip Manor, Dorking v Haybridge Swifts; Whyteleafe v Staines; Wivenhoe v Aldershot Town, Worthing v Wembley. Second division: Bracknell v Saffron Walden; Chesham v Malden Vale, Edgware v Metropolitan Police, Egham v Croydon, Hampton v Barton, Hemel Hempstead v Banstead, Leatherhead v Chalfont St Peter; Oxford City v Tilbury; Windsor and Eton v Aveley, Witham v Ware. Third division: Canvey Island v Hornchurch, Clapton v Northwood, Collier Row v Cove, East Thurrock v Leighton, Epsom and Ewell v Tring, Flackwell Heath v Bedford Town, Harefield v Harlow, Hertford v Lewes, Kingsbury v Feltham and Hounslow, Southall v Horsham

FA VASE: Sixth round: Basildon Utd v Raunds Town

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Amersham v Willesden, Beaconsfield Sycob v Wealdstone Abbey Barnsdown Hamwell, Bedfont House v Corinthian-Casuals, Croydon v Hillingdon, St Margaretsbury v Harrow, Tower Hamlets v Walthamstow Pennant

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Ash DCA Basingstoke v Cranleigh Chipstead v Farnham, Horley v Elon Wick, Merstham v Godalming and Guildford, Sandhurst v Bedfont, Woking Sports v Hanley Wintney. Challenge Cup: Second round: Netherne v Petersfield, Westfield v Cobham

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE Premier division: Arlesey Town v Potton Bar Baggleswade v Royston Brache Sparts v Wingate and Finchley Buckingham Athl Milton Keynes Harpenden v Welwyn Garden City, Haddesdon v Letchworth Garden City, Langford v Dunstable Shillington v Hatfield.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bideford v Frome, Bridport v Barnstaple Bristol Manor Farm v Elmore, Liskeard v Chippenham, Mangotsfield v Torrington Odd Down v Tiverton Saltash v Calne Westbury v Cheddon.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury v Swindon Supermarine, Banbury v North Leigh Carterton v Kintbury, Cinderford v Bicester, Cirencester v Abingdon, Fairford v Tuffley, Pegasus Juniors v Bradley, Shortwood v Highworth. First division cup: Third round: Wantage v Purton.

SKOL MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Ansells v Northfield, Bloxwich v Sherwood Celtic, Chelmsley v Handsham Timbers; Coleshill v Olton Royale; Knowle v Kings Heath, Shirley v Highgate Challenge Cup: Third round: Dudley Sports v West Mids Fire. Fourth round: Harris Hall v Studley BKL, Polesworth NW v Alvechurch Vitta; Meir NA v Massey Ferguson.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Bolehall Swifts v Halesowen Harriers, Brierley Hill v Willenhall, Hinckley Athletic v Oldbury, Knypersley Vic v Stratford, Paget v Sandwell Boro; Pershore v Barwell, Rushall O v Shepshed D, Stapenhill v Chaselown; West Mid Police v Rocester.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Bedlington Terriers v West Auckland, Chester le Street v Eppleton CW; Consett v Whitby, Ferryhill v Dunston FB; Gateshead v Hebburn; Murton v Shildon; Peterlee v RTM Newcastle, Prudhoe v Billingham, Tow Law v Durham.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bilston v Darlaston; Cradley v Wednesfield; Stringshaf HT v Stourport Swifts, Hill Top v Lye; Ludlow v Blakenall, Malvern v Bloxwich Strollers, Pelsall Villa v Walsall Wood; Westfields v Gornal

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Concord v Southend Manor, Eton Manor v Bowers; Ford v Burnham Ramblers, Great Wakering v Stanstead, Maldon v East Ham, Romford v Hullbridge Sports; Sawbridgeworth v Brentwood

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chatteris v Harwich and Parkeston, Cornard v Tiptree, Fakenham v Haverhill, Great Yarmouth v Halstead, Lowestoft v Felixstowe, Walton v Soham, Woodbridge v Sudbury League Cup: Semi-finals: Ely v Newmarket, Wisbech v Wroxham

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Liymington v BAT; Totton v East Cowes Vics, Aerostructures v Swanage and Herston; Cowes Sports v Thatcham; Eastleigh v Bournemouth; Fleet v Downton; Gosport v Bemerton Heath; Horndean v Christchurch; Petersfield v Andover; Ryde Sports v Portsmouth.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Crowborough v Whitehawk; East Grinstead v Eastbourne Town; Hailsham v Shoreham; Oakwood v Newhaven; Peacehaven and Telscombe v Arundel, Ringmer v Portfield; Stamco v Burgess Hill, Three Bridges v Pagham

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bourne v S and L Corby; Eynesbury v Newport Pagnell; Kempston v Wellingborough, Northampton Spencer v Stamford, Potton v Desborough, Spalding v Long Buckby; Wootton v Cogenhoe

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold v North Ferriby, Ashfield v Denaby; Brigg v Ossett Albion, Glasshoughton Welfare v Liversedge, Hallam v Armthorpe Welfare, Maltby MW v Hucknall, Ossett Town v Sheffield; Pickering v Lincoln United, Stocksbridge v Pontefract Colt; Thackley v Belper Town

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Cray v Corinthian; Crockenhill v Sheppey; Deal v Darenth Heathside, Greenwich v Herne Bay, Kent Police v Furness; Slade Green v Chatham; Thamesmead v Canterbury.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Brentwoods v Malvernians; Etonians v Reptonians. First division: Cholmeleians v Haileyburians; Salopians v Wiltelans; Wykehamists v Bradfieldians.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardinal Manning v Glyn; Clapham v O Danes; O Tenisonians v O Hamptonians; O Meadonians v Chertsey; O Ignatians v O Wilsonians. Senior Division One: O Wokingians v O Edmontonians, O Isleworthians v O Sutionians, Phoenix v O Tiffinians, Latymer v O Kingsburians; O Salvatorians v Shene

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Civil Service v Midland Bank; NatWest Bank v Old Latymerians; Winchmore Hill v Crouch End Vampires. Second division: Alexandra Park v Kew Association: Broomfield v Old Bromleians; Lensbury v Carshalton; Lloyds Bank v Old Parmiterians, Old Parkonians v Old Stationers, Polytechnic v Old Westminster Citizens. Third division: Cuaco v Regate Priory, Ibis v Brentham, Merton v Barclays Bank; Old Lyonians v Southgate Olympic.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior One: Old Grammarians v Southgate County, Ulysses v Mill Hill Village, Wandsworth Boro v Wilan. Senior Two: Absentm v Hadley, Duncombe Sports v HAC; Hale End v Old Fairlopians, Old Bealonians v Corinthian-Casuals, Old Finchleians v Ealing Association. Senior Three: City of London v BBC, Fulham Compton OB v Old Monovians, London Welsh v Old Woodhouseans; Old Colleians v Westerns; Polygons v Brent. Senior Four: Bournesde v London Airways; Centymca v Hampstead Heathens; Inland Revenue v Cardinal Pole; Mayfield v Broadfields, Pegasus v Old Simmarobians

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Ipswich v Arsenal; Leyton Orient v Chelsea, Norwich v Cambridge Utd, Portsmouth v West Ham; Queens Park Rangers v Fulham; Tottenham v Charlton. Second division: Watford v Gillingham. Second division: Brentford v Brighton; Bristol Rovers v Southampton, Colchester v Reading, Swindon v Crystal Palace; Wimbledon v Luton; Wycombe v Bristol City.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Afan Lido v Caersws, Barry v Maesteg Park, Connah's Quay v Llansantffraid, Cwmbran v Llanelli; Ebbw Vale v Ton Pentre (2.30); Flint Town v Bangor City (2.30); Inter Cardiff v Aberystwyth, Porthmadog v Newtown; Rhyl v Holywell

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Carrick, Ballymena v Omagh, Cliftonville v Ballyclare, Coleraine v Glentoran; Distillery v Bangor, Glenavon v Lame; Linfield v Crusaders

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Postponed: Sligo v Dundalk

RUGBY LEAGUE

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Bisons v Underbank; Chequerfield v Roundhill; Clayton v Featherstone MW; Crown Meliet v Barrow Island; East Leeds v Dudley Hill; Eastmoor v Pudsey; Ellenborough v Leigh Miners; Farnworth ROB v Haworth; Featherstone Amateurs v West Bowling; Folly Lane v Redhill; Greetland AR v West Hull; Halton Simms Cross v Birkenshaw; Heysham Atoms v West Bank; Mayfield v BRK; Middleton v Thatto Heath; Milom v Hull Dockers, New Earswick AS v Dewsbury Celtic; Osset Trinity v Askam, Ouston v Westgate Redoubt; Park Amateurs v Leigh East; Queensbury v Hensingham; Saddleworth v Lowca; Siddal v Heath Brow Hornets; Skirlaugh v Elland; Thornhill v Pilmby; Walnut Wamps v Brassmoulders, Wigan St Patrick's v Crosfields. Wigan St Judes v Lock Lane; York Acorn v Batley Victoria.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Derby Bucks v Leopards (8.0); Hemel Royals v London Towers (7.30); Manchester Giants v Worthing Bears (7.30); Sunderland Scorpions v Leicester Riders (7.30)

BOWLS: Denny Cup: Semi-finals (at Lawson Park, Bedford). Teignbridge v Preston; Rushden v Cyphers (2.0). EWBA National championships: Northampton.

LACROSSE: University match: Oxford v Cambridge (at Parker's Piece, Cambridge, 2.30).

VOLLEYBALL: Men's national league: First division: Whitefield v Wessex (7.0); Warwick v Liverpool (6.30); Camden v Ealing (5.0); Newcastle Staffs v Lewisham (6.30).

ICE HOCKEY: British League: Premier division: Basingstoke v Humberside (6.00); Cardiff v Edinburgh (6.30); Durham v Bracknell (7.00); Fife v Nottingham (7.15); Milton Keynes v Peterborough (6.30); Sheffield v Whitley Bay (7.00). First division: Dumfries v Guildford (7.15), Paisley v Medwey (7.00); Slough v Trafford (6.30); Solihull v Lee Valley (6.30), Telford v Blackburn (7.30). University match: Oxford v Cambridge (Oxford Ice Rink, 5.0).

SWIMMING: GB clubs championship (Stockport).

SQUASH: Guernsey Women's Open.

BOXING: Livingston: WBC international super-bantamweight title: Prince Naseem Hamed (Sheffield) v Sergio Rafael Liendo (Argentina)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3pm unless stated

Five nations' championship
Ireland v France
(at Lansdowne Road, 2.45) .
Scotland v Wales
(at Murrayfield, 2.30)

Courage Clubs Championship
First division
Bath v Gloucester
Bristol v Northampton
Leicester v Wasps (2.30)
Sale v Orrell
West Hartlepool v Harlequins

Second division
Coventry v London Scottish
Fylde v London Irish
Moseley v Newcastle Gosforth P
Wakefield v Nottingham
Waterloo v Saracens

Third division
Bedford v Rosslyn Park P
Clifton v Morley
Harrogate v Exeter
Otley v Blackheath
Richmond v Rugby

Fourth division
Askeans v Plymouth
Havant v Broughton Park
Liverpool St Helens v Redruth
Reading v Aspatria
Rotherham v Leeds

Fifth division north
Barkers Butts v Sheffield P
Hereford v Kendal P
Preston Grasshoppers v Wharfedale
Stourbridge v Nuneaton
Walsall v Lichfield
Wirrington Park v Birmingham Solihull

Fifth division south
Barking v London Welsh
Henley v Camborne
Metropolitan Police v Lydney
North Walsham v Basingstoke
Sudbury v Berry Hill
Tabard v High Wycombe P

LONDON: First division: Ealing v Sutton and Epsom, Esher v Camberley; Eton Manor v Streetham and Croydon; Guildford and Godalming v Old Mid-Whrightians; Ruislip v Harlow; Southend v Maidstone.

SOUTH WEST: First division: Barnstaple v Salisbury; Maidenhead v Chinderford; Newbury v Cheltenham; St Ives v Taunton; Stroud v Gloucester OB; Torquay v Birkham.

MIDLANDS: First division: Bedworth v Stafford; Mansfield v Derby; Syston v Whitchurch, Towcestrians v Burton; Westleigh v Leamington; Worcester v Camp Hill.

NORTH: First division: Bradford and Bingley v Stockton; Durham City v Wigton; Huddersfield v West Park Bramhope; Sandal v Hull Ionians; Tynedale v Middlesbrough; Wigneys v Manchester.

Club matches
Corstorphine v Haddington (11.0)
Royal High v Preston Lodge (11.0)
Stoke v Weston-super-Mare
Trinity College Dublin
v Oxford University (11.0)
Representative match
England Colts v Italy Juniors
(at Camborne, 2.30)

HOCKEY

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP: Fifth round: Cannock v Reading (Moms Ground, 3.0)

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Guildford v Hounslow (Kings Manor School, 12.0); Southgate v Stourport (Broomfield School, 2.0); Teddington v Hull (Teddington School, 1.30)

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Hampton in Arden v Bloxwich; Harbourne v Olton and West Warwicks; Knowle v Nottingham; Lichfield v North Notts; Leicester Westleigh v Belper

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: Premier division: Cheltenham v Weston-super-Mare, Exeter Univ v Plymouth, Taunton Vale v Hereford; West Glos v Bath Buccaneers, West Wilts v Swansea.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Chichester v Oxford Hawks, High Wycombe v Dulwich, Lewes v Ashford Lyons v Winchester O Whitgiftians v Gore Court; O Walcountians v City Of Portsmouth, Spencer v Anchorians Staines v O Kingstonians; Wimbledon v Maidenhead Woking v Fareham Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Barnes v London Universty; Camberley v

Saturday portrait: Pierre Berbizier, by David Hands, rugby correspondent

Coach who keeps his head despite threat of French revolution

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



Only those of a certain age can have been readers of *The Eagle*, one of the great British comics, but their memories may recall the adventures of Luck of the Legion. The muscular hero (English, I always assumed, though what he was doing in the French Foreign Legion was never quite clear) had a Gallic sidekick, Corporal Trenet, who was short and dark where Luck was tall and fair.

Trenet sprang to mind when I pondered the progress of Pierre Berbizier, the coach to the France rugby union team, which started the 1995 five nations' championship trailing the clouds of glory won on tour in New Zealand last summer, but on whom the sun has suddenly gone down. Maybe it is the image of a small man struggling through the desert sands, faithful to a fault to his colleague; maybe it is Berbizier's oft-expressed admiration for the English qualities that he has constantly said he wishes to inculcate in his own players.

For desert sands, read French rugby, with its troughs and its triumphs. Berbizier has known both, as player and as coach. At the moment, the French are depressed and will be more profoundly so should they lose to Ireland at Lansdowne Road today, but judgment will be reserved until after the World Cup this summer. Not until then will Berbizier know whether he has a rugby future or whether his will be the next head to roll beneath the guillotine's blade.

It was ever thus for the little man from Lannemezan. Berbizier's birthplace, in the shadow of the Pyrenees, is not so far from Lourdes and Brive, both centres of French rugby excellence. René, his father, played first division rugby for Lannemezan, and Philippe, his brother, represented the French universities, but Pierre trained as a teacher of physical education and took himself to Lourdes, where he played full back and centre before turning to scrum half.

In his first season in the position, 1980-81, he displaced Jérôme Gallion in the national side and provoked uproar. Letters appeared in the sporting press from "Disgusted of Toulon" protesting that the strong, bouncy Gallion should have been displaced by the dark, intense 5ft 6in Berbizier. Then 22, Berbizier learnt to cope with the pressure and the experience has served him well.

He also practised judo as a youngster, a discipline which requires an inner core of self-reliance, judgment and a stubborn refusal to be beaten. Berbizier has all three, and never needed them as much as when he played against England, which he did eight times. The first occasion, in 1981, formed part of a grand slam season for France; the third, in 1987, was part of another grand slam; the last, in 1991, was his 56th and final international appearance, when England were dominant.

> **'Carling knows he is captain for the World Cup. I know I am coach for Saturday's game'**

In between, England learnt about the diminutive scrum half who had become the eyes and ears of the France team. They were aware that, if Daniel Dubroca was the captain, Berbizier was his trusted lieutenant in whose hands tactical direction rested; a player with a superb understanding of the game. Never the best passer of a ball, nor the best kicker or most fluent runner, Berbizier pulled the strings. Therefore, he became, like Serge Blanco or Laurent Rodriguez, one of the players to be goaded, buffeted and knocked out of his stride by the opposition.

Berbizier, who spent most of his playing career with Agen, captained France only intermittently. Maybe it was because the coach in the mid-Eighties was Jacques Fouroux, another, even smaller, scrum half, who loved to surround himself with big men. Berbizier eventually fell out with him after the 1989 tour to New Zealand because he felt skill was being subordinated to size.

Controversially, Berbizier was omitted from the France squad which contested the 1991 World Cup. Instead, he worked for *L'Equipe*, the daily sports newspaper, answering readers' letters about the tournament and watching in sadness as France, roughed up again by England, left at the quarter-final stage. Three months later, Berbizier, who is on permanent secondment to the French rugby federation from the Ministry of Education, was the coach as the tumbrils carted off Dubroca, his predecessor, and Albert Ferrasse, the federation president.

One of Berbizier's first acts was to encourage a *rapprochement* with the English, via the media, with whom he has always enjoyed an excellent relationship in France. Occasionally, he becomes irritated with the English, whom he accuses of hypocrisy, sometimes with good cause. Yet he is an unashamed admirer of the rigour England bring to the game, of the discipline which became a characteristic of France under the captaincy of Dubroca and Berbizier in the mid-Eighties and which he drums into his charges now.

Yet the 1992 season was a disaster for France, culminating in the dismissal of two players in the game against England, and revolution loomed. Robert Paparemborde, one of the best prop forwards France has produced, led the charge against the new regime, but he was rebuffed. Berbizier stayed and produced the results.

It is not so much those that he has achieved at home that are significant — one five nations' championship, in 1993, during his reign — but what he has done away from the domestic maelstrom, where so many enthusiasts demand French flair without understanding the primary requirements of rugby in the Nineties. It is not only England's attitudes that Berbizier admires, but the structure, too, that demands less of the leading players than is the case in France.

Berbizier's greatest achievements have come away from home: series wins in Argentina (1992), South Africa (1993) and New Zealand (1994). That is an unparalleled record that has sustained him when the victories over Canada and Wales this season turned to dust in defeat by England and at home to Scotland.

"England always show me lessons, in preparation and continuity," he said of his love-hate relationship. "I admire the permanence of the English. I have to see my players when I can, whereas England's coach has so much time with his players. Carling knows he is captain for the World Cup. I know I am the French coach for Saturday's game — it's the same for Saint-André as captain.

"People talk to me about French flair, but it's not a question of just unleashing that, it's to create the environment in which it can flower. We came back from New Zealand with high hopes, but I have learnt not to try to predict the future. To make assumptions, for me, is dangerous."

Yet Berbizier has been nicknamed "*Abbé Pierre*" because he is always preaching the same message. He is the constant factor in French rugby, so demanding that one sometimes wonders whether France's real captain is in the stand rather than with the players.

He seeks perfection in an inexact sport, flogging himself through the sands, hoping that, one day, perhaps this summer in South Africa, he will reach the hard, sunny uplands of World Cup success which, for Berbizier the player, remained just out of reach in 1987. He will need luck at his side.

Top runners ignore cross country trials

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

GREAT Britain stages the world cross country championships on March 25 for the first time in 12 years, but the rare visit is not exciting many of the host nation's leading runners. More than half of the senior men's team that represented Britain last year, plus others who would be an asset, will be absent from the trials tomorrow.

While much energy has been committed towards putting on cross country's annual showpiece, Britain's team affairs have been neglected. The British Athletic Federation (BAF) has backed the event, but not its athletes.

"I thought this year, with the world championships being in the UK, that everybody would want to run," Ken Rickhuss, the chairman of the BAF, said yesterday. "It has not worked like that and it is disappointing."

Why have all the athletes not come running? "I do not feel we are being met halfway," John Nuttall, the leading British finisher in the world championships last year, said. "They expect people to turn up and run in the trial having not done their job to make sure they have the best team at the right time."

Eamonn Martin, Dave Lewis and Richard Nerurkar, who have won eight English titles between them, and Paul Evans, Britain's best world cross challenge series performer this winter, are among those who will not be at Druridge Bay Country Park, Ashington, for the trials. Neither will Nuttall, who races in Italy instead.

The world championships had been prominent in Nuttall's plans until a stomach illness interrupted his training. He had wanted to show form at the indoor meeting in Birmingham last Saturday, but, when he was offered less money than he is paid for racing overseas, he declined on principle.

Nuttall also felt insulted by the north's failure to select him for their trial team, which would have meant that, had he wanted to race in Ashington, he would have had to pay his own expenses. "I do not think cross country is organised at a professional level, not the same that track is," he said. He considers that group altitude training, which has not been arranged, as essential team preparation.

The first seven finishers tomorrow will receive automatic selection, with two places awaiting the management's discretion. Nuttall does not expect one of them — "I have not got any form this year" — but the inside word is that he may be surprised.

Nuttall, Martin, Darren Mead, Steve Tunstall and Andy Bristow, who all ran at the world championships last year, are absent. Only Dave Clarke, Martin Jones, Dominic Bannister and Barry Royden remain enthusiastic about selection.

The example of Jones highlights Britain's selection mess. Jones was Britain's third finisher in Budapest, yet has not been selected by the north; he must pay his own way in the probability of making the team ahead of others who have been financed.

Martin and Evans contest the NutraSweet London Marathon a week after the world championships. "That is one of the problems we have," Rickhuss added. "The London Marathon seems to be gobbling up people. It is so near to the world championships, it is not possible to do both." Nerurkar and Lewis are also running marathons in the spring.

"The other problem is money," Rickhuss added. "These guys are running as semi-professionals." There is money on the roads, but not in world cross country championships.

Cross country lobbyists say that BAF money favours too heavily track and field, but money is tight at the BAF and track and field produces winners. A British cross country "winner" these days is one who finishes in the top 20 of the world championships.

Edey gives Kent chance to condemn TCCB cover-up



SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

ON MONDAY, Kent County Cricket Club will debate what amounts to a vote of no confidence in the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB). If the vote is carried, it will be rather as if Tunbridge Wells returned as MP a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

The man behind it is Roy Edey, Kent member and old friend of this column. He is one of those trying people who believes that a club is a democratic organisation and that the individual can play a role in the decision-making process. He once threatened legal action to stop his county's players from playing in pyjamas; and he successfully moved to have the Kent committee reduced in size.

His latest bombshell is concerned with the notorious Kent v Warwickshire quarter-final of the Benson and Hedges Cup last year. Warwickshire made a pig's ear of covering their pitch for the game, the surface was unplayable and, after two days, the matter was settled by a bowl-out; that is, a few chaps bowling a ball at unguarded stumps. "We came to play cricket, but lost at skittles," Alan Igglesden, the Kent fast bowler, said. Warwickshire, who have a Test match ground, were deeply in the wrong, but escaped with a slap on the wrist from the TCCB.

This was an unworthy episode in a leading sport. Edey has set up the debate at the Kent AGM and the vote will be decided on a show of hands on the night rather than a postal ballot. All of this could commit Kent to a stance of opposition to the sport's governing body in England. This is an intriguing clash between cricket's visceral dislike of anything that could possibly be construed as rocking the boat and a deep Kentish feeling that natural sporting justice was denied them.

History test

Last chance for *Wisden*. This column's competition for the naming of the big yellow almanack's five cricketers of the year closes on Monday: get those late entries in the post. You must speculate on the editor's choice for the five players who have done most for the English season of 1994, always remembering that nobody gets the award twice. There will be five copies of *Wisden 1995* for those that get closest to the editorial mind. Early entries show a surge of confidence in the man who said: "You guys are history" (and the rest was history).

Old sweat

Loony of the week: greetings to Richard Stoneman, 34, old enough to know better, and in training for the *Marathon des Sables*, the 145-mile trot across the Sahara. The event takes place next month, with temperatures a nice snug 120F. Competitors run for seven days carrying food, water, sleeping bag and clothes. One stage is 42 miles. Stoneman's training schedule includes the odd marathon. He aims to raise £10,000 for the Sportability clinic, where he works.



Notable absentee

The spookiest rugby match of the season took place last weekend when Centaurs met Hendon in a Courage Clubs Championship and Middlesex merit table match. The teams last met two years ago, when William Hardy, of Centaurs, hit an opposition player, Semus Lavelle. Lavelle later died. Hardy was acquitted of manslaughter in the High Court. He still plays for Centaurs, but he was injured — diplomatically or not, nobody is saying — for the rematch. Centaurs did not bring any supporters. David Gershlick, the Hendon president, said: "Both sides were anxious to keep things as low-key as possible. Centaurs did not stay long afterwards."

Heavenly help

Valery Karpin, the Russian footballer who plays for Real Sociedad in Spain, was doing awfully well but suffered a scoring block. He knew the solution: he needed to pray in an orthodox church. "Life under the Soviet regime has not damaged my faith," he said. But there was no orthodox church to be found. Eventually, he discovered one over the border, in Biarritz, but it was closed. He tried again two days later, found it open, entered and addressed himself to God. Next match? Not one goal but two.

Full compliment

This column does not normally run misprint stories, on the grace-of-God principle, but then perhaps this is not a misprint at all. Yorkshire County Cricket Club has released a prospectus for the season, designed to entice would-be members to reach for their cheque books.

"The team, under the leadership of Martyn Moxon, is determined to capitalise on the wealth of talent now lining up for Yorkshire. Michael Bevan, our exciting new signing from Australia, will compliment our own international players, the explosive Darren Gough, all-rounder Craig White, plus Michael Vaughan and Richard Stemp."

How will he do this? "G'day, Darren, you're a truly great bowler. Hi, Craig, digger, I've always admired you. Mick and Dick, well, you're both terrific blokes . . ."

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10/11 Scotland	12/1 Draw	Wales (+5pts)	10/11
10/11 Ireland (+6pts)	12/1 Draw	France	10/11

WINNING MARGIN BETTING

SCOTLAND	WINNING MARGIN	WALES
7/2	1-5 Pts	4/1
7/2	6-10 Pts	13/2
11/2	11-15 Pts	14/1
9/1	16-20 Pts	28/1

Murrayfield. Kick-off 2.30pm. Live on BBC TV.

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IRELAND	WINNING MARGIN	FRANCE
9/2	1-5 Pts	4/1
2/1	6-10 Pts	7/2
16/1	11-15 Pts	9/2
33/1	16-20 Pts	7/1

Lansdowne Road. Kick-off 2.00pm. Other margins on request.

William HILL

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Arrowsmith's plans disrupted by injury

BY JOHN HENNESSY

TO Jenna Arrowsmith, 14, the surprise winner of the British figure skating title in Hull in December, falls the distinction of being the youngest British solo skater in recent times to compete in the world championships, which start this weekend.

Megan Taylor and Cecilia Colledge were younger when they competed before the war, as was Yvonne Sugden, in 1951, but the comparison ends there, because in those days the number of entries was more generous. In 1951, for example, only nine nations were represented, with four skaters from Great Britain. This week, in Birmingham, there will be 33 countries and only one skater from Britain.

Joanne Conway, also 14 at the time of winning the first of her six British titles, would have reached 15 by the world championships in the 1985-86 season, but, in any event, she was replaced by Susan Jackson after a disappointing European championship.

Luck is on Arrowsmith's side to a certain extent. Although she competes in the qualifying competition at the National Exhibition Centre on Monday, the host nation is now allowed an automatic entry, so, for her, it is an opportunity to display her wares without the fear of failure. For all that, she will want to go through on merit, as she did in the European championships in Dortmund in January.

There, her luck seemed to run out. A gash in a leg, from which six stitches were removed only last Saturday, has interfered with her preparations and it is a mercy that she does not have to skate competitively for real until the short programme on Friday.

Clive Shorten, the runner-up to Steven Cousins in the British championship, is also in the wars, with tendinitis in his left knee. He seems to have learnt to live with it, as he has with the problems of trying to raise the sponsorship that would allow him to devote himself fully to the pursuit of excellence. His qualifying competition starts tomorrow. Cousins is excused from qualifying as a result of his tenth place in the event last year.

PROGRAMME: Tomorrow: Men's qualifying (2.30 and 7.0). Monday: Women's qualifying (10.30 and 3.0). Tuesday: Compulsory dances (11.30); opening ceremony (6.30); pairs short programme (7.30). Wednesday: Men's short programme (2.0); pairs free (6.30). Thursday: Original dance (2.0); men's free (6.30). Friday: Women's short programme (2.0); free dance (6.30). Saturday: Women's free (2.0)

Veterans' day at Lansdowne Road

Elwood's return could point way to Ireland revival

FROM JOHN HOPKINS IN DUBLIN

TAXI-DRIVERS know everything, and the one in Dublin had hardly got into fourth gear on his way out of the airport before he had delivered his verdict on Ireland's five nations' championship match against France at Lansdowne Road this afternoon.

"We've absolutely no chance," he said with a smile, looking in his rear view mirror to see what reaction this verdict would bring. "Our lads are the last of the amateurs. We've no players. They don't play rugby in any of the national [state] schools any more. And the French are very professional."

If there is one city in one country in the world in which it can never be said that the home side has no chance, it is Dublin and Ireland. For years, Ireland have been ten points better at Lansdowne Road than away from it, and two matches from recent memory will serve as evidence.

The first was Ireland's stunning performance in the 1991 World Cup when they almost beat Australia. The second came on a mad March day two years ago when they demolished a highly fancied England side that included Jason Leonard, Brian Moore, Martin Bayfield, Ben Clarke, the Underwoods, Will Carling and Jeremy Guscott.

England were 6-1 on favourites to win that day, and the contrast between the anticipated result and the actual score made it one of the most extraordinary — and memorable — matches of the last few seasons. Ireland looked as though they had 17 men on the pitch, and even before half-time some distinguished Englishmen were so rattled by the ferocious tackling that they looked as though they dreaded receiving the ball. For England on that day, Dublin was far from a fair city.

It may be significant that Ireland have eight of the men who played in March 1993 on duty again this afternoon. They had nine until Paddy Johns withdrew yesterday with suspected appendicitis. The reshuffling to replace Johns involved moving Anthony Foley to No 8, where he plays for Shannon, and awarding Eddie Halvey, another Shannon player, his first cap at blindside flanker.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

This change, combined with the one forced on them on Thursday when Ben Cronin dropped out during training and the uncapped David Tweed was brought in, has made things difficult for the Irish as they attempt to win their first match in the championship this season. Mind you, the French have not been much better, and they have brought back three old timers.

The teams have made 12 changes in all and it seems incongruous in an age of faster rugby that four men should be so long in the tooth. France's Louis Armary is 31, Franck Mesnel 33, and Marc Cécillon 35, and Tweed, who is the oldest man to make his debut for Ireland, is 35. Perhaps experience counts for something after all — the French trio are certainly experienced, with 134 caps between them.

Eric Elwood was one of the key men against England in 1993. He kicked two penalty goals and two dropped goals in Ireland's 17-3 victory. Elwood returns to the side for the first time this season, replacing Paul Burke, who was probably selected ahead of his time.

This will put an end to reminders of Bill McLaren's *faux pas* on BBC television when he referred to a "plane-load of Burkes" during Ireland's game against England last month.

Jim Staples regains the full back position where he has won 14 caps. What with injuries and moving from London Irish, this is his first game for Ireland since October 1992.

He was selected to play against Scotland at Murrayfield last month, only to go down with influenza. It was a good game to miss — Ireland, outplayed in the lineout in the second half, lost 26-13.

Staples plays his club rugby for Harlequins and, in a club that is supposed to be full of city slickers, he is one of the few who is just that. He works for a French bank.

Cold grey skies settled over Dublin yesterday and snow was visible on the nearby hills. Barings and Nick Leeson made the front page of the papers, but inside were photographs of flooding in Galway.

This match seems to be adjudged to be relatively unimportant, which is an accurate, if harsh, reflection of the position of the two teams in the championship. Both have lost twice, but France, having played one more match than Ireland, beat Wales in Paris.

Nobody can forecast with certainty what sort of a match it will be, but I suspect it will be high-scoring. France cannot continue to be as limp as they have been all season, and Ireland, as noted, are always more dangerous at home. The last game at Lansdowne Road ended after 27 minutes. That was the notorious Ireland-England football match. This game will go its full course.

LANSDOWNE ROAD TEAMS

IRELAND		FRANCE
J E Staples (Harlequins)	15	J-L Sadourny (Colomiers)
S P Geoghegan (Bath)	14	E N'Tamack (Toulouse)
B J Mullin (Blackrock College)	13	P Sella (Agen)
P P A Danaher (Garryowen)	*12*	*F Mesnel (Racing)*
N K P J Woods (Blackrock Coll)	*11*	*P Saint-André (Montferrand)**
E P Elwood (Lansdowne)	10	Y Delaigue (Toulon)
M T Bradley (Cork Constitution)*	9	G Accoceberry (Begles-Bordeaux)
N J Popplewell (Wasps)	1	L Armary (Lourdes)
T J Kingston (Dolphin)	2	J-M Gonzalez (Beyonne)
P M Clohessy (Young Munster)	3	C Califano (Toulouse)
E O Halvey (Shannon)	6	P Benetton (Agen)
D A Tweed (Ballymena)	4	O Merle (Montferrand)
G M Fulcher (Cork Constitution)	5	O Brouzet (Grenoble)
W D McBride (Malone)	7	A Benazzi (Agen)
A G Foley (Shannon)	8	M Cécillon (Bourgoin)
**captain*		**captain*

Referee: C Thomas (Wales)

Replacements: 16 M Field (Malone), 17 P A Burke (Cork Constitution), 18 N A Hogan (Terenure College), 19 A N Other, 20 G F Halpin (London Irish), 21 K G M Wood (Garryowen).

Replacements: 16 S Viars (Brive), 17 P Carbonneau (Toulouse), 18 A Macabiau (Perpignan), 19 A Costes (Montferrand), 20 M de Rougemont (Toulon), 21 P Gallart (Béziers).



Scott Hastings plans to make the most of an unexpected opportunity against Wales. Photograph: Tom Kidd

Hastings rejoins brother in arms

Mark Souster talks to the centre who returns to the international fray at Murrayfield today

It has been a season of contrasting fortunes for the brothers Hastings. While Gavin was leading Scotland with his customary panache, Scott was forced to consider the possibility of a premature end to his international career. Then fate, in the shape of Ian Jardine's smashed cheekbone, intervened. Suddenly, Scott was back in the side and, against Wales at Murrayfield today, he wins his 52nd cap.

At 30, the younger brother by three years, he rang Jardine to offer his sympathy. He, too, had broken his cheekbone, the second time on the British Isles tour to New Zealand in 1993, when by consent he was playing some of the best rugby of his career. He knew how Jardine felt.

"I'm delighted to be back but, in all honesty, if the final whistle had gone a minute earlier in Paris then Ian would not have been injured and I wouldn't have been recalled to the side," Hastings said. "However, the door of opportunity has opened for me and I've got to take it."

In the past, Scotland's fortunes and those of the Hastings brothers have often mirrored one another. Since their debut together in 1986, they had been the linchpins of the Scotland back division and, appropriately, they both passed the 50 appearances milestone against France last year.

South Africa's convincing victory in November then upset the apple-cart. Reputations and past achievements counted for nothing. Hastings was one of ten casualties as the selectors finally despaired of Scotland's ability and will to win. Amid mutterings of comfort zones for certain players, Hastings included, a new generation was ushered in, with instant results.

Used to being in the thick of the action, Hastings, an account director with an Edinburgh advertising agency, found himself on the sidelines as the Scots reeled off three victories, latterly in wonderful fashion in Paris.

"The Ireland game was the worst," he said. "Because the match was in Edinburgh and I was sitting at work on Thursday and Friday thinking I should be training with the boys. There was such a buzz in the city.

"I watched the French game with my old sparring partner, Sean Lineen. It was a great game and I was as emotionally involved as anyone. When Gavin scored that try which set up victory, I was out of my seat."

During his brief exile, Hastings did not lose confidence in his ability. He stepped up his training regime during January and February and hoped that appearances for the Scotland A team against Ireland and France would keep him in the selectors eyes, which they did.

"Now I'm back, I've got to use all the experience I've got from my internationals and use it to the best of my ability," he said. "I'm slotting in with players I've played with for the past few years. It was a weird experience in our squad session together, fitting in again like part of a jigsaw. I know I need a big game. I'm conscious of that, but that is what I thrive on. That's what I'm looking forward to, and there's no better place to do it than Murrayfield."

But as a newcomer to a winning team, Hastings feels a particular kind of pressure, one he is not used to. Running out today against Wales, for whom he has a healthy respect, will be like winning his first cap all over again.

The way Hastings's and Scotland's season is unfolding, nobody should be surprised if it is he who scores the winning try to set up a grand slam showdown at Twickenham in a fortnight.

Underwood brothers answer call to help Leicester

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE the international spotlight moves away from England, the Courage Clubs Championship enjoys what could be a significant day at the top and bottom of the first division. Were Leceister, for example, to lose against Wasps, it would surely mark the end of their pursuit of Bath as well as denting their prospects for the Pilkington Cup semi-final when the clubs meet again on April 1.

To that end, the Underwoods appear on the wings for Leicester, who have won the last three league encounters. However, they have lost Wells from their back row with a knee injury. His place goes to Tarbuck, and club officials were confident that, barring substantial overnight snow, their arrangements at Welford Road make the fixture safe. Wasps restore Greenstock to the wing, welcome Andrew back at stand-off half and reconstruct their front row to comprise Molloy, Dunn and Probyn.

Whether Bath themselves are vulnerable remains to be seen. Matches with Gloucester, home or away, are never taken for granted, even if Bath have lost only once to them in the league. International calls deprive the league leaders of Hilton, Peters and Geoghegan; Hall, their captain, is injured; and Guscott is unavailable on a day when a revamped half-back pairing of Sanders and Butland takes the stage.

At some point, Northampton must start winning if they are to claw their way out of the basement. Their opportunity comes against a Bristol side deprived of three key forwards — Sharp, Shaw and Blackmore — on a day when Harlequins, the team one place above Northampton, face a potentially awkward visit to West Hartlepool without Carling, the England captain, who has a strained Achilles tendon.

Northampton, meanwhile, may take heart from their league record against Bristol — five wins and only one defeat. Northampton are able to play Hunter at full back for the first time since October, they have Rodber and Bayfield, their England forwards, and the fear of failure to spur them on.

☐ England's colts (19 and under) open their international programme against Italy at Camborne today with a pack weighing, within a pound or two, the same as the senior eight. It includes Vickery, the 18st 10lb Cornishman, at prop and Murphy, the 19st lock, who is already playing in the West Hartlepool first XV.

Welsh pack will prove key

FROM CHRISTOPHER IRVINE IN CARCASSONNE

KEVIN ELLIS is the embodiment of spirit and lack of compromise in a revitalised Wales rugby league team, which is favourite to win the John Smith's European championship here tomorrow, despite a record of only three successes in 19 matches on French soil.

As one of only four authentic Welshmen to have appeared in all eight matches since the team's rebirth in 1991, Ellis has, nonetheless, welcomed the new "Anglos" with open arms. "Backs were never that much of a problem, but the grandparent rule has put steel into the pack," he said. "That's where it will be decided against the French and that's where we do have the edge."

Behind a pack motoring with alacrity in the opening championship match, with England, Ellis marshalled a famous 18-16 victory, scoring both tries. He is a scrum half brimful with confidence. Warrington, said Ellis, made a big mistake in loaning him to Workington Town last November. The Cumbrian air has proved invigorating.

Since leaving Bridgend in 1990 and taking the road north, partly because Robert Jones, even then, had firm hold of the Wales rugby union scrum half jersey, Ellis has invariably thrived in adversity. His rapport with Jonathan Davies, at half back, has brought Wales to the brink of a first European title, or any title come to that, for 57 years.

This summer, the pair are due to team up in the Winfield Cup. Short-term contracts signed by Ellis and Davies at North Queensland Cowboys should enliven Townsville. Springtime in southern France is preparation for that, but also October, with Wales and France together with Western Samoa in the same World Cup group.

The medieval walled city of Carcassonne is new territory for the Welsh, whose cross-Channel excursions have been traditionally short on bounty. Significantly, perhaps, there are nine survivors from the side that squeezed past France 19-18 in Perpignan in 1992.

It was by a point, too, that ten of the present French side were eventually overcome in Cardiff 12 months ago. Should France triumph at the Albert Domec stadium by the required margin of five points, they would remain European champions. They won the title when it was last contested, 14 years ago.

As gallantly as France fought before surrendering to England, the Wales forward boilerhouse should have one or two steam hammers too many for the home side. Against England, it was noticeable, too, how the converted Wigan front row of Skerrett, Hall and Cowie, plus Eyres, of Leeds, at loose forward, spurred on Moriarty, Young and company.

The European championship format is not perfect, but it has, at least, provided a competitive showdown.

TEAMS

FRANCE: L Lucchese (Sheffield); C Sinvert (St Gaudens), P Chamorin (St Gaudens), S Millet (St Gaudens), J-M Garcia (St Estève); D Despin (Limoux), P Entat (Leeds, captain); F Teixido (Limoux), P Torreilles (Pia), B Llong (XIII Catalan), D Vaero (Lézignan) Substitutes: F Banquet (Featherstone), B Coles (XIII Catalan), L Herbert (Pia), J Pech (Pia).

WALES: P Atcheson (Wigan), J Devereux (Widnes), A Bateman (Warrington), I Harris (Warrington), A Bullman (St Helens); J Davies (Warrington, captain), K Ellis (Workington); K Skerrett (Wigan), M Hall (Wigan), D Young (Salford), P Moriarty (Halifax), M Perrett (Halifax), R Eyres (Leeds). Substitutes: P Ford (Salford), N Cowie (Wigan), A Hadley (Widnes), R Phillips (Workington).

Referee: J Connolly (England).

Pontypool R.F.C.

Director of Coaching

Current Premier League Welsh club requires energetic and visionary coaching director to formulate and implement coaching structure and manage training and playing policy.

Salary by negotiation

Reply with full CV by 25th March 1995 to:

The Secretary,
Pontypool R.F.C.
Office 1
Portland Buildings
Hanbury Road
Pontypool NP4 6JS

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leopards 71 (Youngblood 25, Brown 18) Manchester Giants 70 (Robinson 19, St Kitts 19). London Towers 84 (Windless 22, Scott 18) Sheffield Sharks 72 (Finch 18).
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York 93 Chicago 89; Dallas 90 Cleveland 84; Milwaukee 102 Atlanta 93; Orlando 107 Houston 96; Charlotte 109 Portland 99. Seattle 116 Los Angeles Clippers 88

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: English women's IBA national championship: Fours: Last sixteen: Prince Arthur (Y Waslington) bt Wisbech (J Dawson 25-20; Egerton Park (J Williams) bt Newquay (O West) 22-14; Thornaby (N Shaw) bt York (P Napier) 26-11; South Forest (P Oliver) bt North Walsham (M Smith) 26-11; Tye Green (J Grainger) bt Minehead (J Murrell) 23-10; Egham (M Steele) bt Riverain (S Page) 17-16; Arun (W Adams) bt Tilbury (A Scoles) 28-14; Croydon (E Vigor) bt Erdington Court (J Caems) 18-15.

CRICKET

CHRISTCHURCH: Centenary women's International match (Final day): New Zealand 323 and 192 for five dec. Australia 251 and 149 for three. Match drawn.

FOOTBALL

RIO DE JANEIRO: Rio championship: Botafogo 3 Olaria 0; Flamengo 2 Madureira 0; America 4 Entrerriense 0; Americano 0 Fluminense 0; Volta Redonda 3 Friburguense 0; Bangu 2 Campo Grande 0.
Thursday's late results
EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Arsenal 1 Auxerre 0; Feyenoord 1 Real Zaragoza 0; Sampdoria 0 FC Porto 1.
UEFA CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Parma 0 Odense 1.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 2 Bristol City 1.
SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL LEAGUE: Southend 2 Welling 0.
ENGLISH SCHOOLS MATCHES: Premier League Under-19 Trophy: Hampshire 2 Sussex 1. Snickers Cup: Second round: Ystol Glantaf 1 Abingdon College 2, Winstanley College 4 Widnes Sixth Form College 3.

GOLF

MIAMI: Doral Open: (US unless stated) Leading first-round scores: 65: D Love, S Verplank, S Lowery. 66: T Kite; F Allem (SA), W Austin. 67: N Faldo (GB); S Elkington (Aus), D Duval. 68: B Claar; H Sutton; G Norman (Aus), S Pinsoul (Aus); N Ozaki (Jap); J Leonard, P Stewart; B Glasson; M Heinen; P Jacobsen. Selected other scores: 70: V Singh (Fij), 71: G Waite (NZ); E Romero (Arg), J Parnevik (Swe). 72: C Montgomerie (GB). 74: E Els (SA). 75: D Feherty (GB). 76: S Ballesteros (Sp).
NEW DELHI: Indian Open: (India unless stated) Leading second-round scores: 138: J Rutledge (Can) 69, 69. 140: R Moss (US) 68, 72. 141: D Chopra (Swe) 72, 69. 142: B Ali 72, 70. 143: G Webb (US) 73, 70; J Gould (Eng) 72, 71; G Ghei 71, 72, J Singh 69, 74; S Frisch (US) 69, 74.
NAIROBI: Kenya Open: Leading second-round scores: 132: T Bjorn (Den) 64, 67; J Lee (Eng) 66, 66. 133: S Little (Scot) 67, 66. 135: V Phillips (Eng) 67, 68. 136: W Guy (Scot) 70, 66; J Kingston (SA) 69, 67. J Vingoe (Eng) 67, 69.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 7 New Jersey 2; Buffalo 6 Pittsburgh 3; Detroit 6 Winnipeg 1; Washington 4 New York Islanders 3; Tampa Bay 3 Ottawa 2 (OT), Florida 2 Philadelphia 2 (OT); San Jose 4 Toronto 3, Vancouver 2 Calgary 2 (OT).

RUGBY UNION

BRISBANE: Super 10 tournament: Pool B: Queensland (Aus) 24 Canterbury (NZ) 6.
UNDER-21 INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland 15 Wales 9
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Scottish Universities 14 Welsh Universities 23; Combined Irish Provinces 8 Northern Transvaal 28; Scottish Fire Service 22 Welsh Fire Service 17.
CLUB MATCHES: Cume 16 Watsonians 15, Dundee HSFP 19 Pontypridd 11; Grangemouth 52 Llandybie 10.

TENNIS

ROTTERDAM: Men's tournament: Second round: P Haarhuis (Holl) bt K Carlsen (Den) 6-7, 7-6, 7-6; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt M Wilander (Swe) 6-4, 7-6; R Krajicek (Holl) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 7-5, 6-4. Quarter-finals: P Haarhuis (Holl) bt J Tarango (US) 6-4, 6-4; Y Kafelnikov (Rus) bt M Damm (Czech) 6-0, 7-6.
SCOTTSDALE, Arizona: Men's tournament: Second round: B Steven (NZ) bt B Karbacher (Ger) 6-1, 6-4; M Woodforde (Aus) bt W McGuire (US) 6-4, 1-0, ret. J Courier (US) bt R Furlan (It) 6-3, 6-4; S Edberg (Swe) bt M Gesterer (Ger) 6-1, 6-1; B Steven (NZ) bt B Karbacher (Ger) 6-1, 6-4, M Woodforde (Aus) bt W McGuire (US) 6-4, 1-0, ret.
BRACKNELL: Men's satellite tournament: Final: T Johansson (Swe) bt B Cowan (GB) 6-4, 6-2. Doubles: Final: A Lasch (Ger) and T Zdrazila (Cz) bt O Knetsenson and M Ranstrom (Swe) 7-6, 6-4.
INDIAN WELLS, California: Women's tournament: Second round: L Davenport (US) bt A Gaveldon (Mex) 6-3, 6-1; N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt T Whitlinger-Jones (US) 6-4, 6-2; E Likhovtseva (Kaz) bt R McQuillan (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; M J Fernandez (US) bt P Fendick 6-7, 6-3, 6-2. E Likhovtseva (Kaz) bt R McQuillan (Aus) 6-4, 6-2. L Davenport (US) bt A Gavaldon (Mex) 6-3, 6-1; M-J Fernandez (US) bt P Fendick (US) 6-7, 6-3, 6-2; N Sawamatsu (Jap) bt T Whitlinger Jones (US) 6-4, 6-2.
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico: Women's tournament: Second round: A Decheume-Ballaret (Fr) bt L Harvey-Wild (US) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4; N Feber (Bel) bt A Serrazanetti (It) 6-2, 6-4; S Testud (Fr) bt J Halard (Fr) 6-4, 6-4. Quarter-final: G Fernandez (US) bt S Farina (It) 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.
SOUTHAMPTON: Texaco women's challenger: Second round: D Randriantefy (Mad) bt E Martincova (Cz) 7-5, 6-3; A Karek (Ger) bt J Hussarova (Slovakia) 6-2, 6-4. Quarter-finals: S Pitkowski (Fr) bt S Pitschke (Aut) 6-4, 6-4; D Monami (Bel) bt S Kornieva (Moldova) 6-3, 6-1.
SANTO DOMINGO: Davis Cup: American Zone: Group A: Playoffs: Dominican Rep 2 Costa Rica 1; Puerto Rico 2 East Caribbean 1, Puerto Rico 2 Dominican Rep 1; East Caribbean 3 Bermuda 0.
MEXICO CITY: Mexican Open: Men's singles: Second round: F Clavet (Sp) bt B Shelton (US) 5-0, 6-4; M Haded (Col) bt C Costa (Sp) 6-1, 6-3; O Martinez (Sp) bt A Hernandez (Mex) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5; T Muster (Aus) bt L Lavalle (Mex) 6-4, 6-1. Men's doubles: First round: M Petchey (GB) and K Thorne (US) bt D Johnson and J Waite (US) 4-6, 7-5, 7-6

YACHTING

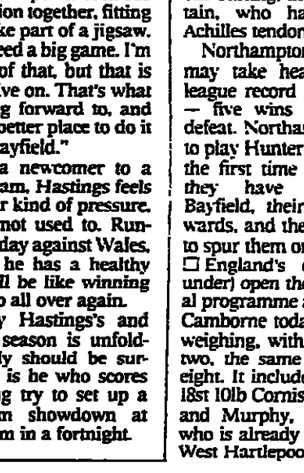
SARASOTA, Florida: Laser II world championships: Overall (after four races): 1, T Sakarna and C Russick (US); 2, P Ames and P Buhler (US); 3, P Barker and P Cuny (Can); 4, P Harrison and G Faux (GB); 5, R Ford and S Ford (GB).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	35	140	good	varied	fair	fair	7	27/2
(Most upper runs excellent, particularly Pass Thurn)								
St Anton	100	430	good	crust	hard	cloud	-6	27/2
(Hard and icy pistes with colder air; snow forecast)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	210	415	powder	powder	powder	snow	0	3/3
(Poor visibility and constant snowfalls with more to come)								
Chamonix	100	580	powder	powder	good	snow	-3	3/3
(Excellent prospects when weather clears)								
Courchevel	200	340	good	powder	good	snow	1	3/3
(Fresh snow at all altitudes; windy high up)								
ITALY								
Cervinia	120	400	powder	powder	good	snow	-1	3/3
(Tricky visibility; outlook good when weather clears)								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	180	380	good	varied	good	snow	1	3/3
(Heavy snowfall promising excellent skiing)								
Grindelwald	30	180	good	varied	fair	snow	1	3/3
(New snow freshening pistes; excellent skiing)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

The first thing the Irish will do is teach the French some table manners.



PURE GENIUS.
The official beer of the Irish Rugby Team.

Cannabis found in sample

Palace striker Armstrong fails drug test

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

CHRIS ARMSTRONG, the £4 million-rated Crystal Palace forward, has tested positive for cannabis. Although officials from the FA Carling Premiership club and the Football Association refused to confirm or deny the matter yesterday, Armstrong has failed a random test, which was believed to be on January 23. He has subsequently taken two tests, conducted by an independent authority on Palace's instruction, but both proved negative.

Palace, struggling near the foot of the Premiership, have consistently declined to disclose the reasons behind Armstrong's absence from the team that won 1-0 in an FA Cup fifth-round replay against Watford at Selhurst Park on Wednesday. It was a strange omission, with Armstrong, 23, having missed only two matches — both through suspension — this season.

Although Armstrong has not enjoyed the best of form — he has scored only two league goals — Newcastle United made a bid of £4 million for him six weeks ago. Palace, who have repeatedly stated they have no wish to sell him, turned it down.

After beating Watford, Alan Smith, the Palace manager, appeared at a press conference, with Armstrong sitting alongside him, and made a bizarre pronouncement. He stated that there was no row between him and the player, but said: "I did not play Chris on the advice of the club surgeon. I am not at liberty to say what the problem is. Some things have to remain private."

Conflicting reports yesterday suggested that Armstrong was either missing on Wednesday because of a a groin injury, which might need surgery, or that it was because of a drugs-related problem. Smith, however, again refused to elaborate.

"I haven't got the authority to say anything," he said. "The matter is being dealt with by the club surgeon and, at the moment, Chris is training with us. The show goes on and it is business as normal."

Armstrong will not play against Chelsea in the Premiership match at Stamford Bridge tomorrow and Palace will decide at a later date when he will return to action. Smith said: "It is not down to me. The FA are involved, but there is not a problem with them. There has been no disciplinary action against Chris and I have not changed my opinion of him." The London *Evening Standard* later reported that Armstrong had tested positive for cannabis and claimed that Smith and Mike Hurst, the club secretary, had been interviewed by the FA. Hurst, however, declined to comment.

"Our drugs programme is based on complete trust," Mike Parry, an FA spokesman, said. "A player has to be able to come to us in total confidence, knowing that there is absolutely no danger of it becoming a public spectacle. That is the way it has to be." He would not comment on whether the FA had spoken to Palace.

Armstrong was born in Newcastle and moved to Camberwell in London when he was three. However, he spent much of his early life in care, with Roy, his older brother, until being taken in by foster parents, Roy and Pam Armstrong, from Llay, near Wrexham. Though now settled in the south and married with a young child, he still revisits the Armstrongs as regularly as possible.

He left school at 16, with no real enthusiasm for football, and worked in a beefburger factory. However, after returning to playing with local sides, he was given his professional chance by Wrexham in March 1989. After scoring 13 goals in 42 matches, he joined Millwall for £50,000 and he then moved on to Crystal Palace for £1 million in September 1992.

Last season, he scored 22 league goals as Palace won the Endsleigh Insurance League first division title. Many of the higher-profile clubs have since courted him, even though his form has slipped and Palace have maintained that he is not for sale.

Cannabis is termed a Class B substance, perceived as "recreational" and not performance enhancing. The FA's random drugs-testing programme, which is carried out by the Sports Council, is in its third season. From the 92 samples taken last season, there was only one positive test. However, over the same period, of the 1,300 members of the Professional Footballers' Association aged between 16 and 18, nine were helped with drugs problems.

Newcastle revival 36
Football's soul found 36
Celtic chase Clough 36



Armstrong has been courted by several leading clubs



Bobek takes a break during practice at the National Exhibition Centre yesterday

Brass Knuckles prospecting for skating's precious medals



Andrew Longmore on the teenager who is drawing comparisons with the notorious Tonya Harding

Had Bonnie and Clyde decided to enter the pairs competition at the world ice skating championships in Birmingham next week, they could hardly have caused more of a stir than the girl they call "Brass Knuckles" when she took to the ice in practice yesterday.

Nicole Bobek, a 17-year-old from Detroit, gained her gangster-style knickname from her habit of wearing a ring on every finger and already a brush with the law has prompted natural and unwanted comparisons with another controversial American skating champion, Tonya Harding.

Though their cases are very different, the parallels are too strong to be mere media whimsy. Blonde, blue collar, tough-talking and chain-smoking, Bobek's education, her attitude to authority and her competitive instinct owe as much to the streets as the classroom. She never knew her father and was brought up by her mother, Jana, who fled Czechoslovakia at the age of 21, when the Soviet tanks rolled into Prague in 1968.

That she had rare talent as a skater was apparent from a very early age — she won six gold medals in state contests before the age of seven — but that the talent survived the hard driving of Jana and the guidance of a bewildering number of coaches was more remarkable. Bobek's description of herself as a "free spirit" often translated into coach's language as "unmanageable". Off the ice, she did what she wanted; on the ice, she did what she wanted, including improvising steps during her programmes, like Madonna on skates.

But it is a brief acquaintance with the United States legal system that makes Bobek's claim to Harding's black cloak irresistible. While Harding was accused of sponsoring an assault on her rival, Nancy Kerrigan, before the Winter Olympics last year, Bobek was caught without permission inside the house of a friend in a plush suburb of Detroit early in November. It was also alleged that Bobek had money in her hand, though her lawyer, Michael Friedman, later claimed that no money had been taken.

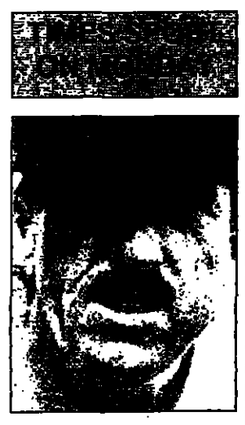
On January 19, Bobek pleaded guilty to a charge of "house invasion" and was placed on two years probation under a nightly curfew and ordered to do community service. Because she was tried as a juvenile, the case was kept confidential until Bobek made the diplomatic mistake of winning the United States national title in Providence, Rhode Island, just a few weeks later and news of what Bobek had termed a "misunderstanding" and her lawyer had described as "a youthful indiscretion" leaked out.

Either way, once the confidentiality had been breached, the charge was dismissed by the Oakland County Court, Bobek became a free spirit once more and the United States Skating Federation breathed a sigh of relief.

To add to the complications and to compound the half-truths, nobody has been willing to talk about the case. But it has not taken long for a more sinister, Hardingesque, twist to be given to the tale by Friedman's claim that the camp of a rival skater had hired an investigator to acquire copies of the court case and leak the information to the media. "It is another example of jealousy and envy at work in skating," Friedman said. "With Nancy Kerrigan it was smash her knee, with Nicole Bobek, it was sully her reputation. We have some names in mind, but we are not about to start pointing the finger because we do not have any proof."

The one thing beyond all innuendo is Bobek's ability. On her day, she is a breathtaking performer, vivacious, stylish, quite the equal of Harding if she can concentrate on her skating when, as a novice, she begins her challenge in qualifying on Monday. She has refused to give any interviews until after qualification. Having won the United States title with controversy hovering, her mental toughness has already been tested to the full. Miss Brass Knuckles clearly has a will of iron. It is not out of the question that bronze, silver or gold will hang from her neck by the end of next week as well.

Arrowsmith's aim, page 38



TWO OLD STAGERS

Simon Wilde watches two former England cricket players exchange their bats for the boards

GOLDEN SHOT

Monsieur Le Cure will give John Edwards his best chance of Gold Cup glory at Cheltenham. Julian Muscat explains why

GRAND AMBITIONS

Will Scotland set up a grand slam finish to rugby union's five nations' championship? David Hands reports

12 PAGES OF SPORT ON MONDAY

Scots confident of stretching winning run

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND'S administrators may have been at loggerheads with those of Wales this week over World Cup matters, but, when it comes to rugby union's five nations' championship, the countries embrace each other fondly. For Welsh supporters, the trip to Edinburgh remains a highlight, and even though only 5,000 have tickets for the match at Murrayfield today, thousands more are gathered to will Wales to their first championship win of the season.

Their collective support, however, flies in the face of results this season, which show Scotland on a swelling, unbeaten roll and Wales in sad decline after the championship success of last season. In that sense, the opening, by the Princess Royal, the patron of the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU), of the Wooden Spoon Society terraces at Murrayfield, could not be less appropriate when the Scots have put their 1994 wooden spoon so firmly back in the drawer.

It has been a remarkable volte-face by Scotland, who must now be favoured to win — a position most Scots would go a long way to avoid. "I don't think that we are necessarily favourites." Dougie Morgan, the coach, said yesterday, though he was not convincing many. "On paper, maybe, but I have stressed that Wales have played a lot of internationals in the past 13 months and have engendered their own team spirit. They have a lot of quality players."

Yet, in beating Canada, Ireland and France since the turn of the year, Scotland have established a base of confidence tinged with the realism induced by the grim, defeated months during 1993 and 1994 which may yet carry them to a grand slam challenge match with England on March 18 at Twickenham. The Scottish management shudder almost visibly at the prospect.

Their duty has been to keep Scottish feet on the ground after the outstanding win in Paris, to concentrate upon the Welsh rather than let thoughts stray to a hypothetical slam. "We were together last weekend and got Paris out of our system, so it has been easy to focus on this weekend," Gavin Hastings, the captain, said.

In addition, two of the successes of Paris, Ian Jardine and Damian Cronin, have been removed by injury from the equation. Lucky the side that can bring in a player with 51 caps in his locker for the unfortunate Jardine: that Scott Hastings will become his country's most capped centre ahead of Jim Renwick will be neither here nor there for a player with so fierce a pride in representing Scotland.

However, the loss of Cronin is more significant. His form at lock this season has been a revelation and weakens Scotland in an area where Wales are strong. The problem for Wales, in a fixture replete with outstanding tries (many of which were being replayed on television programmes yesterday), is to make sure that they use whatever possession they gain from set-pieces more productively than a stream of Neil Jenkins penalties.

It would not take much to turn Wales into a better side than their results suggest they are. Last season, their three tries against Scotland at a watery Cardiff carried them forward to an unexpected title. They know that they have the most consistent goal-kicker in world rugby in Jenkins, although Gavin Hastings's form at the moment is comparable; they know they have a competitive pack, a tactical brain at scrum half and worthy finishers.

In addition, the players rushed back in against England last month after long absences through injury — Ieuan Evans, Nigel Davies, Hemi Taylor — have a greater degree of match fitness now than was apparent then. Yet can Wales conjure space, can they contrive a celebratory try for Evans on his fiftieth appearance after tryless matches against South Africa, France and England?

The debate in Wales centres around Jenkins at stand-off half. When will he spark the national side in the way that he illuminates Pontypridd? Or should a place be found for him at full back and a more imaginative footballing brain introduced. Perhaps, today, Jenkins will answer the questions that his critics have hurled at him.

Scotland's problem is to keep their momentum at a time when fresh developments are being introduced within their domestic game, of which a national cup competition is only the latest. As it happens, the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) is also taking steps to embarrass ticket-holders found to have sold on their tickets at inflated prices, by posting stickers on seats at Murrayfield warning the occupant that their place has come from the black market.

Whether this will make Murrayfield appear a less user-friendly stadium remains to be seen, but, if it can help recreate the Fortress Murrayfield of the pre- and post-1990 period, the SRU will be happy. Yet the fortress depends on its defenders, on Gavin Hastings and his colleagues, and this year the siege has been lifted.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	3	3	0	0	74	27	6
Scotland	2	2	0	0	49	34	4
France	3	1	0	2	52	63	2
Ireland	2	0	0	2	21	46	0
Wales	2	0	0	2	18	44	0

RESULTS: Ireland 8 England 20; France 21 Wales 9; England 31 France 10; Scotland 26 Ireland 13; Wales 9 England 23; France 21 Scotland 23.

FIXTURES: Today: Scotland v Wales; Ireland v France. Mar 18: England v Scotland; Wales v Ireland.

SCOTLAND		WALES
A G Hastings (Watsonians)*	15	M Back (Bridgend)
C A Joiner (Melrose)	14	I C Evans (Llanelli)*
G P J Townsend (Gala)	13	M R Hall (Cardiff)
S Hastings (Watsonians)	12	N G Davies (Llanelli)
K M Logan (Stirling Co)	11	W T Proctor (Llanelli)
C M Chalmers (Melrose)	10	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)
B W Redpath (Melrose)	9	R N Jones (Swansea)
D I W Hilton (Bath)	1	M Griffiths (Cardiff)
K S Milne (Heriot's FP)	2	G R Jenkins (Swansea)
P H Wright (Boroughmuir)	3	S C John (Llanelli)
R I Wainwright (West Hartlepool)	6	H T Taylor (Cardiff)
G W Weir (Melrose)	4	D Jones (Cardiff)
S J Campbell (Dundee HSFP)	5	G O Llewellyn (Neath)
I R Morrison (London Scottish)	7	R G Collins (Pontypridd)
E W Peters (Bath)	8	E W Lewis (Cardiff)
*captain		*captain

Referee: S Lander (England)

Replacements: 16 I C Glasgow (Heriot's FP), 17 A G Shiel (Melrose), 18 D W Patterson (W Hartlepool), 19 J F Richardson (Edinburgh Academicals), 20 J Manson (Dundee HSFP), 21 K D McKenzie (Stirling County).

Replacements: 16 W J L Thomas (Cardiff IHE), 17 D W Evans (Treorchy), 18 R H StJ B Moon (Llanelli), 19 P T Davies (Llanelli), 20 H Williams-Jones (Llanelli), 21 R C McBryde (Llanelli).

Portrait, page 38
Elwood returns, page 39
Hastings rejoins, page 39

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حكذا من الاصل



One careful lady driver — smitten by her 202mph car

Page 3



Birthday bubbles for a one-door wonder

Page 10



SATURDAY MARCH 4 1995

On the eve of an historic launch, **Kevin Eason** talks exclusively to the man behind a miracle

Rover's return: The MG roars back

The MGF is a symbol of a car giant that has achieved a remarkable turnaround

The covers will next week finally come off the car Britain has waited 15 years to see.

Bosses from the biggest car companies, celebrities, journalists and television crews will all race past the glittering Mercedes stand at the Geneva Motor Show, around Lamborghini and Ferrari to Rover ... to see the new MG.

If ever a car has captured the public imagination, it is this. For the MG is more than just another sports car: it is The British Sports Car and a symbol of the new Rover Group, one of the most remarkable stories of industrial revival in modern times.

Being bought by BMW a year ago this month has only accelerated the pace of the company's rapid growth. The problem is that managers can barely believe the story themselves, according to John Towers, the company chairman.

Before he set off for Geneva, Towers called a meeting this week of Rover's 200 senior men and women. In times past, that was the signal for panic, cuts and the sort of decisions that led to the demise of MG in 1980. This time it was to tell the people who run Rover how to cope with success.

"Every time we launched a new model in the past," says Towers, "it was the car that was going to make or break us. We don't have that now because we are creating a business which does not depend on one single event.

"These people spent years worrying whether they would be in a job tomorrow and what would happen next. Now we have to learn that managing success is just as difficult."

Ten years ago, British Leyland — Rover's predecessor — lost £49.6 million: BMW is expected to declare later this month that its new acquisition made £80 million last year.

Success is not just measured in profits: how many foreigners wanted to buy British-made Rovers a decade ago? The company sold 130,000 vehicles abroad in 1985: last year the figure was 219,300 and is rising fast.

BMW has also told Rover to increase investment by 25 per cent to about £2 billion over the next five years and recruit 300 extra designers for its styling and engineering studios.

Towers says three new models are already in the pipeline which will appear in the next few years in an almost breathless push to a production output of 750,000 vehicles a year between Rover cars and the incredibly successful Land Rover division by the end of the century, an increase of 50 per cent in five years.

The MGF, a radically modern two-seater which will cost between £15,000 and £18,000 and be fired by a new generation of the company's K-series engines, is the latest new model but by no means the last. Within weeks the new Rover 400 small car will arrive, the last model to come from the 15-year co-operation with Honda of Japan.

Towers will never tell what is next until it arrives but a new "baby" Land Rover — a smaller, cheaper four-wheel-drive to beat the Japanese — is almost certain and there has to be another Mini.

Nobody knows yet whether Bernd Pischetsrieder, BMW's chairman, will get his wish and see some old names revived. Pischetsrieder, a nephew of Sir Alec Issigonis, inventor of the Mini, which is still going strong after 35 years, wants to see the return of names such as Riley and Wolseley. Rover is known to be investigating whether to build a Jaguar-rivalling, luxurious Riley.

The fact that Rover is even contemplating such expansion, and needs new people to add to its 2,500-strong design team in Coventry, will quash fears that the BMW takeover meant Rover would become simply a colonial outpost of its German master.

If anything, Rover could be more powerful and independent with BMW than when it was relying on Honda technology to develop its mainstream cars. Towers says: "We have always said we would maintain the capability to make every part of the car. BMW's strategy is to allow us to work independently and that is giving us a lot of freedom."

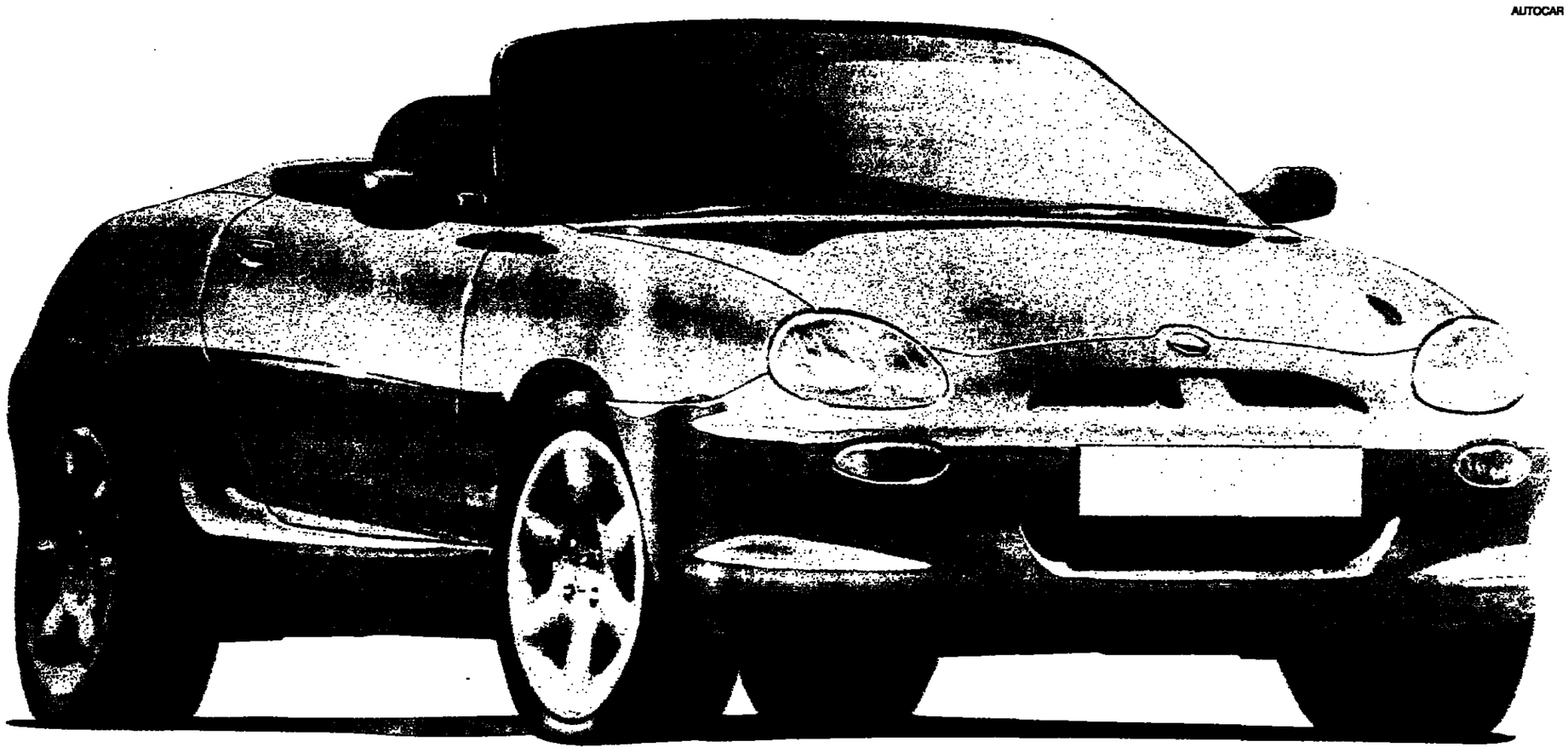
The two sides do meet at a series of Anglo-German co-ordinating groups, from board level to marketing and sales groups, basically so the two companies don't bump into each other in the marketplace and spoil each other's activities.

They are learning from each other and, surprisingly, Rover has been able to give BMW, arguably the world's most successful carmaker of the past decade, a few lessons, particularly in industrial relations.

While BMW is struggling through engineering strikes in Germany, Rover has one of the best industrial relations deals in the world. Every worker is guaranteed a job for life and everyone gets regular training and even grants to take up hobbies and learn new skills, from sheep rearing to learning Japanese.

Innovative thinking was needed to get the best out of a smaller workforce making more cars. There are 36,000 Rover workers today compared with 77,000 a decade ago, when the company made only 400,000 vehicles a year.

And Rover has another world-beating virtue: no other firm can make an MG. The badge belongs to Rover and the style can only come from the years of tradition, which, in spite of the huge changes, will never be swept away.



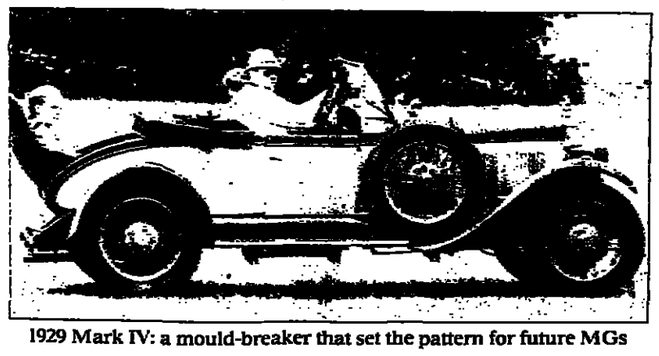
AUTOCAR

'After years of worry, we have to learn how to manage success'



Towers: man at the top

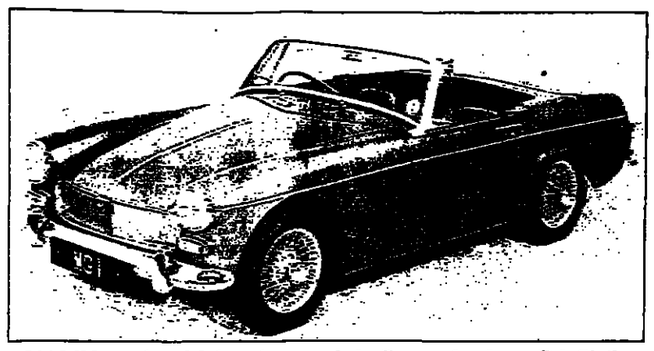
Seventy years of the Great British Sports Car



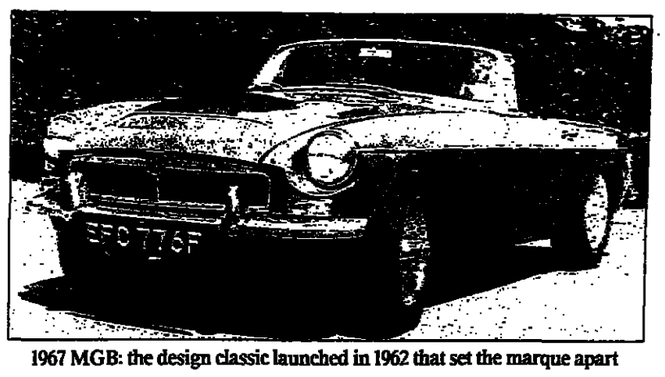
1929 Mark IV: a mould-breaker that set the pattern for future MGs



1959 MGA: first of a classic series. The MGF will be unveiled next week



1964 Midget: sluggish but characteristically cute for the stylish Sixties



1967 MGB: the design classic launched in 1962 that set the marque apart

Exotic Aston Martins and Ferraris were always out of reach of all but the rich ... but anybody could afford an MG, even from the earliest days when the cars were little more than converted saloons (Kevin Eason writes).

The MGF, to be launched next week, is the latest in a line of cars that have become as much a part of motoring folklore as Bentley, Rolls-Royce or the Mini. When enthusiasts the world over think of the definitive British sports car, they think of an MG.

Morris Garages, an offshoot of the famous motoring conglomerate, stocked all the usual sensible saloons, including the full Morris range, in the 1920s. Cecil Kimber revolutionised the business when he took over as general manager, by converting a four-cylinder Morris Cowley into a two-seater and offering it in pastel shades.

It stuck out like a sore thumb at a time when you could have any colour so long as it was black, and it set the pattern for MGs to come. In 1924, Kimber had enough confidence to put the MG badge on a converted Bullnose Morris ... and the legend was in the making.

Within five years there was an MG factory, at Abingdon in Oxfordshire, and the company got its own engineering team, fired with the notion of producing sports cars for ordinary people.

The J2 Midget of 1932 cost just £199 10s but could rattle to a top speed of 70mph and travel 400 miles on one tank of petrol.

After the war, the model range grew to include the distinctive 1955 MGA, while the Sixties were marked by the MG Midget, a car with performance which these days would barely embarrass a push-bike but had characteristic cute styling.

The MGB, though, launched in 1962, set the marque apart. The car never broke any performance records but that hardly mattered because the look has been one of the most enduring to come from any design studio anywhere.

Everybody wanted one. Viscount Linley bought one second-hand for £800, Sting owned one, so did Angela Rippon. S.J. Perelman, the famed Hollywood humourist, drove his from Paris to Peking.

Thousands, though, were bought by farmers, postmen, bricklayers — anybody who yearned for a change from the world of lookalike hatchbacks and saloons.

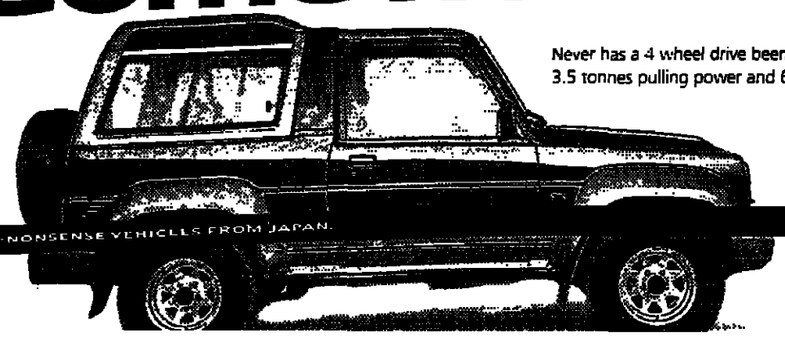
The Americans were potty about them, accounting for 70 per cent of the 511,000 MGBs made at Abingdon. But the plant was so inefficient that the company lost £900 on every car it sent to the United States, and those kind of economics led to the demise of MG.

When the end came, it was less drama than Carry on Cars. Executives, their wives and 100 American dealers met at London's Connaught Rooms to celebrate 50 years of MG ... only to hear in the after-dinner speech by a British Leyland executive that the company was being killed off.

Although BL tried to keep the marque alive, the attempts were a half-hearted botch, with the badge stuck on the bonnets of souped-up Metros, Maestros and Montegos. Nobody was fooled and Britain yearned for the return of a real MG.

BL never understood but Rover's new bosses do: MGs never die. That is why they had to give the badge a new life.

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'Why are we punished for parking in a quiet street while a taxi rank operates with impunity slap outside Harrods?

Time to clamp down on this meter madness

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

When I lived in the City of London, the desk sergeant at Snow Hill police station and I had a relationship that was a model of community policing, long before the phrase was invented. He would look up when I came crashing through the swing doors and say: "Oh hello, Mr Barnard, how are we today?" as if he was a surgeon on his rounds who had recently removed my appendix.

If I failed to turn up for a week he would ask if I had enjoyed my holiday or inquire as to whether I had been ill. But normally I saw him once a week for that is roughly how often my car was clamped.

The principal annoyance was that there was no need for parking restrictions in the side street concerned and there was no great turnover of visiting traffic to justify having meters. So the meters, the tickets and the clamping were all about one thing: raising money.

This is why motorists get so angry about parking restrictions. We are not opposed to them where they make sense, but if the main purpose of the restrictions is to assist traffic flow then why are we punished for parking in a quiet side street while, for example, a taxi rank operates with impunity slap outside Harrods on the main westbound road out of London?

So I am less enamoured of this week's RAC report on parking in London than is the RAC itself. "Parking in central London is becoming easier," it says, "as enforcement is tightened".

The Times published some interesting examples of what "tightened enforcement" actually means, including mothers ticketed for dropping children outside a school and tickets being doled out in Kensington because vehicles overlapped parking bays, even though the bays are too short to take the average car.

The fantastic cost of parking in London and the draconian attitude to miscreants, together with the fact that private clamping and towaway firms carry logos on their vehicles which, what a coincidence, make them look like police vehicles, all add up to a recipe for resentment.

If as I suspect the underlying policy is to make big city parking viable only for those with big money, whether in the form of cash for fines or chauffeurs or taxi fares, then we are coming to the end of the egalitarian dream in which the motor car would be the freedom chariot for all.

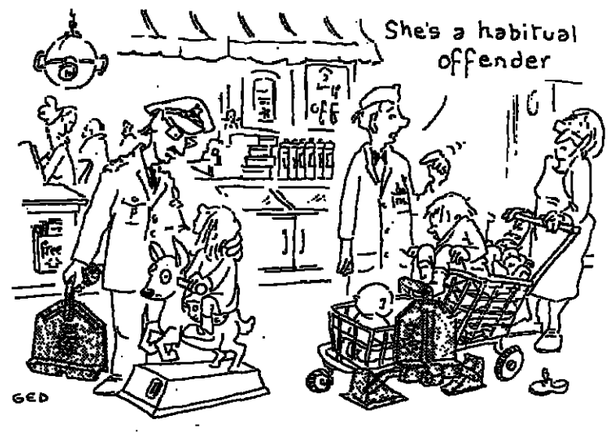
The stunt of the week is Brian Mawhinney's "tough new curbs" on emissions from vehicles, which include fines of up to £1,000 for errant car drivers and £2,500 for vans and lorries. But how are drivers to know they have breached the limit?

Black smoke from the exhaust pipe means you are in trouble, but the absence of same does not mean you are not in trouble. Perhaps we could all buy a gas analyser of the kind used by MoT testing stations? They measure two things: carbon monoxide as a percentage and hydrocarbons (basically unburnt fuel) in parts per million. Cost? Up to £4,000 per machine. So we won't bother with that.

Are gas analysers reliable? Garages I have spoken to say "only up to a point". There are companies that periodically turn up to test the testers and more often than not they announce that the machine needs "re-calibrating". Possibly, possibly not. The cost of re-calibration? £120.

Garages are being encouraged to buy their own forecourt analysers, into which motorists would put a coin, place a nozzle over the exhaust pipe and get a red or green reading. At around £3,500, don't expect a crop of them overnight.

As for roadside checks, this will involve the kind of manpower resources which are unthinkable given the other pressures on cash. So cowboy haulage firms will simply risk the fines while responsible hauliers and motorists just get something else they have to worry about.



Are car exhaust tests clean?

GREENER CARS

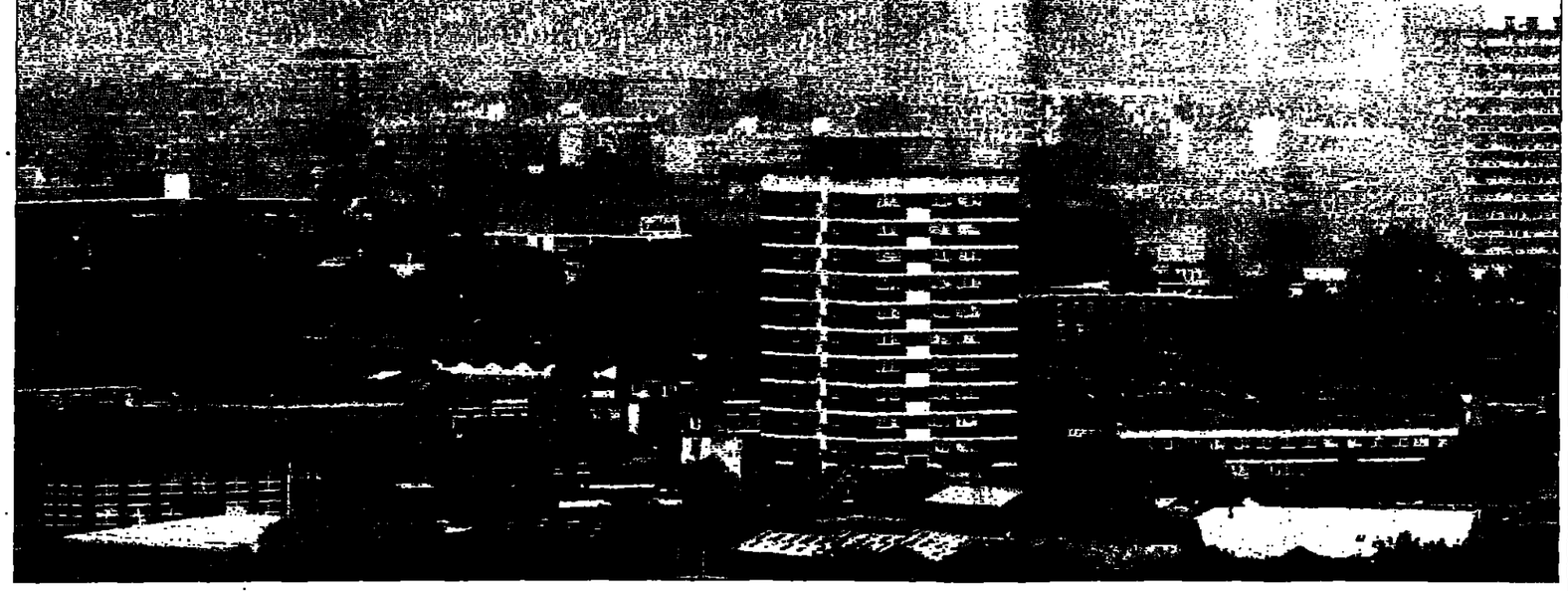
These cars according to the European Federation for Transport and Environment offer the best packages of low pollution and high recyclability

SMALL PETROL	MEDIUM PETROL	LARGE PETROL	SMALL DIESELS	LARGE DIESELS
Citroen AX	Mitsubishi Colt 1300 GL	Peugeot 306 1.6	Citroen AX	Toyota Corolla 2.0D
Peugeot 106 1.0	Renault Clio 1.4	Nissan Sunny SLX	Peugeot 106	Seat Toledo 1.9D
Nissan Micra 1.0	Mazda 323 LX 1.4i	Nissan Primera 1.6 SLX		Peugeot 306D 1.9
Fiat Panda 1000 Fire L	Skoda Forman LXi	Toyota Corolla 1.4 XLi	MEDIUM DIESELS	VW Passat 1.9TDi
Renault Clio 1.2	Nissan Sunny X	Toyota Corolla 1.6	Citroen C15D Familiale	Renault 19 1.9TD
			Seat Ibiza 1.9D	
			Renault 19 1.9D	
			Renault Clio 1.9D	
			Citroen ZX 1.9D	

DIRTIER CARS

These cars were found to emit unacceptable levels of at least two of the major pollutants: Carbon monoxide, unburnt hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides

Mitsubishi Galant 2.0
Toyota Camry 2.2
Ford Mondeo
Ford Scorpio



THE AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● LONDON

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton: road width reduced on the Lea Valley Viaduct.
A129 Putney Bridge: reduced to *one lane each way for repairs.*
A214 Trinity Rd, Wandsworth: temporary lights at junction with Burntwood Lane cause regular delays, especially northbound in mornings.
A501 Kings Cross one-way: major repairs with lane closures. 24-hour restrictions, long delays expected.
A1 East Finchley: lane restrictions on Falloden Way and Lyttleton Rd, regular delays.

● SOUTH EAST

M25 Surrey J7-8 (M23/Reigate): contraflow causes regular delays and affects traffic joining from M23 northbound. Overnight until 8am tomorrow this section will be closed for additional work, with diversions.
M25 Surrey J10-11 (A3/Chertsey): widening work with contraflow.
A3 Guildford, Surrey: contraflow between Abbotswood and Cathedral interchange. Expect delays, especially near A322 Dennis slip road.
A329 Bracknell, Berks: roadworks at Met Office roundabout (junction with the A322/A3095/B3022).
A27 Chichester Bypass, Sussex: contraflow between Westhampnett and Whyke roundabouts.
M275 Hampshire between Portsmouth and **M27**: contraflow for maintenance. Also lane closures on M27 between J11-J12 (Fareham/M275).
A40 Oxfordshire: roadworks between Cassington and Eynsham, narrow lanes.
A420 Oxfordshire: roadworks at Farringdon between bypass and Longcott turn, extra restrictions at weekends and overnight. Long delays.

● SOUTH WEST

M4 Avon J20-21 (Almondsbury/Aust): roadworks affecting *both carriageways.*
M32 Avon J1-2 (Filton/Eastville): lane restrictions both ways for bridge work — peak time delays.
M5 *Glos J11-12 (Cheltenham/Gloucester):* contraflow.
M5 Devon near J27 (Tiverton): contraflow and northbound entry slip road closed.
A419 Swindon: contraflow between Turnpike roundabout and A361 junction, with slip road onto B4141 Hyde Rd closed.
A350 Semington, Wilts: roadworks and temporary lights in High Street, long delays.
A361 Somerset: closed between East Lyng and Burrow Bridge to HGVs — diversions via A38 towards Dunball and M5, then follow A39.
A4 Bath: temporary lights on London Rd West due to work on Batheaston Bypass. Long delays.
A40: only one lane open in each direction over M5 overbridge on Golden Valley bypass.

● MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA

A43 Silverstone, Northants: Resurfacing work, delays expected, no work on Sundays.
A1M near Blyth, Notts: *contraflow between Harworth and A614.*
A38 north of Derby: major work on Little Eaton Bypass with lane restrictions and contraflow.
A52 Notts Ring Rd: roadworks between Dunkirk and Nottingham Knight. Restrictions overnight.
A45 Stonebridge, West Midlands: flyover construction at A452 junction and widening between M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island (40mph limit and lane closures).
A452 Shire Oak: work on Chester Rd between Castlehill Rd and Lindon Rd, northbound closed north of Lichfield Rd (A461) with diversions.

● NORTH

M6 Cheshire J20-21A (Lymm/Croft): roadworks continue near Thelwall Viaduct. Southbound entry slip closed at J21.
M62 West Yorkshire J25-J26 (Brighouse/Chain Bar): contraflow and 50mph restriction. Westbound entry slip closed at J25.
M18 J3-4: contraflow and lane restrictions. Northbound entry slip closed at J3.
M57 J1 (Tarbock Island): roadworks and lane closures at roundabout junction with the M62, additional restrictions at weekends.
M62 Humberside J34-35 (Whitley Bridge/Langham): contraflow with two lanes each way and eastbound entry slip road at J34 closed.
Tyneside: A1080 closed at Benton Bank overnight for work on viaduct between Jesmond Dene Rd and Jesmond Park West until Wednesday.
A1M Co Durham between Bowburn and Carville: contraflow two lanes each way and 50mph limit.

● WALES

M4 Gwent J23-22 (Magor/Newhouse): lane restrictions and contraflow for widening between Magor and Rogiet for construction of second Severn crossing.
M4 South Glamorgan: work to widen interchange at J32 (Coryton).
A5 Maerdy, Clwyd: improvements continue at Glyn bends. Restrictions including temporary lights at times and short-term closures.
A465 between Llandarcy and Aberdulais: contraflow on Saltings viaduct for resurfacing. Long delays, add extra 30 minutes at peak times.

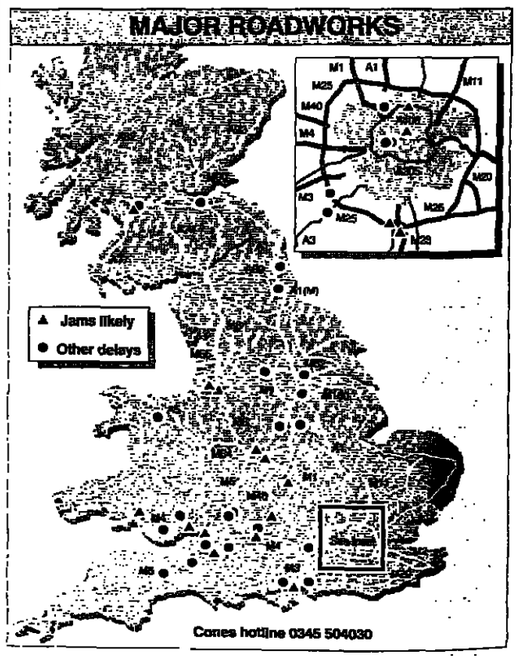
● SCOTLAND

M8: contraflow between J26-J28 Hillington and Glasgow airport.
Edinburgh: *width restrictions on High St between North and South bridges.*

● NORTHERN IRELAND

A26 Co Londonderry: temporary lights on Greenhill Rd at junction with Ballymoney bypass.
A37 Limavady: temporary lights *on Broad Rd for resurfacing.*
A1 Co Down: only one lane open southbound on Hillsborough Bypass between Hillsborough roundabout and *Moira Junction.*

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NEWS SUMMARY

Tesco's petrol perk

Tesco has beaten the pack to offer the first low benzene unleaded petrol. Experts fear increasing emissions of benzene could cause cancer, leading Tesco to stock petrol containing under 1 per cent of the chemical.

Seven sites in London this week got the first supplies of the fuel, which is no more economic but safer than conventional unleaded. It should be available at all 222 Tesco superstore filling stations by the end of the year.

VW Polo wins award

Volkswagen's Polo won the car of the year title awarded by *What Car?* magazine this week. Among winners, the *Range Rover was judged best off-roader* and Jaguar's *new XJ saloon* the best luxury car. Vauxhall won two awards: for the Vauxhall Tigra as best coupe and Omega as best executive car. Best fun car was Toyota's RAV4 GX. **Polo road test, page 10**

A Minor triumph

The 1961 Morris Minor with only 343 miles from new, featured *in Car 95* recently, sold for £4,200 at the auction organised by ADT at its headquarters in Camberley, Surrey. The pristine Morris was among 90 cars which were up for bids from a crowd of more than 3,000 enthusiasts. Top sale was £24,400 for a 1972 Jaguar E-Type *S1I1* Roadster with 39,000 miles.

Brooklands auction

***You could* step into the shoes of a racing driver later today — if you buy them at an auction at the Brooklands Museum, Weybridge, Surrey. The boots come from Formula One driver, Johnny Herbert. Mika Hakkinen has provided McLaren racing overalls and Martin Brundle a signed crash helmet.**

History repeats itself at glorious Goodwood

Vaughan Freeman on a blast from the exciting past of motor racing

BLASTS from the past come *no faster, louder or more* evocative than the Goodwood Festival of Speed which this summer will bring to the magnificent home and grounds of Lord March in West Sussex probably the greatest collection of classic racing cars ever gathered.

It is to motor racing what Ascot is to horses and Henley to rowing. Cars worth millions will be thrashed up the mile and a quarter Goodwood hill climb, the longest and fastest in Britain, as entrants risk all to set their best time.

The theme is to recreate great battles of motor racing history.

Alfa Romeo, Bugatti and Maserati models that fought out the 1933 Italian Grand Prix line up again together. Stirling Moss and Derek Jenkinson will be reunited with the Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR in which they won the 1955 Mille Miglia. The Ford GT40s, Ferraris and Porsches from Le Mans of the late 1960s will be there and the Carrera Panamerica road race cars from the 1950s.

A true highlight will be the first run in anger for almost 60 years of the Mercedes-Benz W165 which won the Tripoli Grand Prix in 1939. Other tussles to be recreated include the 1965 Monaco Grand Prix and the 1973 Targa Florio.

Robert Brooks, whose company will auction historic sports, competition and collectors' cars on the eve of the weekend, and who also holds the hillclimb record for pre-1970 cars, explains Goodwood's success: "Simply, the atmosphere is unbeatable."

● *Tickets for the June 24 and June 25 event are priced from £4 for a Saturday grandstand seat, to £15 for a weekend pass. Booking office: 01243 787766, or fax 01243 774313, or write to: Goodwood Motor Sport, Goodwood, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 OPX.*

Kevin Eason wonders if car makers are pulling a fast one and sweeping pollution under the 'green' carpet

The Ford Mondeo, Car of the Year in 1994, came bottom in tests organised by an influential European transport group to find the most polluting new cars.

Research from the European Federation for Transport and Environment could shatter faith in official tests for toxic exhaust gases and comes as Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, this week announced a crackdown on the most polluting cars on Britain's roads.

The federation claims that manufacturers deliberately design cars to pass tests drawn up by the European Union which sets standards on exhaust pollution. Although new cars pass the EU tests, it claims, the same models spew out pollutants, such as nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide, in greater quantities once out on the roads.

Ford, Mazda, General Motors and Toyota were named as the biggest offenders in the extensive research into 31 models.

The federation says: "Ford, along with some other manufacturers, have clearly prepared the car to perform well only within the EU emission test, ignoring the emissions outside that test cycle."

The report adds: "Several car makes showed very high 'hidden' emissions under these conditions, which are not covered by the EU test cycle. These are clear signs of manufacturers making an effort to have their cars pass the test cycle but not bothering to make sure emissions are low under all conditions."

The federation's decision to carry out its own tests stemmed from the fact that consumers might be able to find out the top speed, acceleration and fuel consumption of their new car, but they will not be able to compare the amount of polluting gases that come from the tailpipe. In addition to the key components of pollution and fuel economy, experts checked features such as each car's recyclability, noise and "passive" safety strengths, such as ability to absorb crash impacts.

Ford said the Mondeo passed all legal requirements and the federation had been unfair in not accounting for the car's safety, security and general environmental package, including "green" production facilities in Belgium.

The federation feels that tests should be tougher still and information comparing individual models be available to buyers in every EU market.

Gijs Kuneman, the federation director, says: "Consumers who want to compare cars on environmental aspects are right: first, because there are enormous differences between models: second, because they have a right to know. However, it is very hard to get hold of the necessary data."

Federation researchers identified 26 models which came out top of its wide environmental classification, with combined attributes of relatively low emissions, good recyclability and fuel economy. They ranged from the Citroen AX to the Volkswagen Passat TDi turbodiesel.

However, results from the specific pollution test were more disturbing, showing a wide variation between the official figures and the federation tests.

Even models which had good all-round qualities failed when put through the stiff federation exhaust check, which included 30 per cent of the driving cycle at a constant 31mph (50kph), 20 per cent at 37.5mph (60kph) and 20 per cent at 56mph (90kph) plus a mix of "stop-start" acceleration and slowing down. That is closer to "real" driving than the EU's cycle, claims the federation.

In a measurement of carbon monoxide emissions, for example, the Mondeo performed almost twice as badly in the federation test. Using the index of the average car at 100, the Mondeo scored 65 in the EU test but 148 in the federation cycle.

The results were much the same for hydrocarbons (HC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx). The 2-litre Mondeo scored 80 for the EU hydrocarbon test and 158 for the federation while, in the EU NOx cycle, it scored 115 but 200 in the federation examination.

The federation claims that the Mondeo and the Mitsubishi Galant 2.0 were "prime examples of cycle beating" but Ford's Scorpio and the Toyota Camry 2.2 also scored badly in more than one pollutant test.

The report adds: "Ironically, the Mondeo was voted 1994 Car of the Year by European motor journalists, who obviously did not include environmental performance in their judgement."

هكذا من الاصل

Big makers are under increasing attack for not fully investigating mystery fires and other alleged design faults, reports **Tony Dawe**

'The company did not even inspect the car, and offered no apology'

Leading car-makers are being accused by motorists of showing "massive indifference" to fires and other serious faults which have wrecked many vehicles, causing danger as well as damage.

Scores of owners have contacted *Car 95* to complain that manufacturers have refused to investigate their problems and told them, instead, to seek redress through their insurance policies.

The complaints were sparked by last month's *Car 95* report into mystery Renault Espace fires. The French company had initially taken little action but was prompted by our investigation to recall 4,000 turbo diesel models.

Renault is also being criticised for failing to acknowledge a possible design fault which has caused engines in several diesel models, including the Espace and Clio, to seize up after being driven through shallow floodwater.

Other grievances include claims that Citroën refused to investigate a mystery blaze which destroyed a BX19 while it was parked, and increasing concern over Vauxhall's failure to explain a spate of fires that have damaged its best-selling Cavalier.

Manufacturers are thought to be reluctant to accept new design faults because they have been forced to admit so many others. Orders to recall five million cars across Europe have been given in the past fortnight. In addition to the Renault Espace, three million Vauxhall Astras and their Opel equivalents have been recalled because of a potential fire hazard, and nearly two million Volkswagen Golf and Jetta models are to be modified to eradicate an overheating problem.

The Volkswagen fault will cost the company about £60 million. Engineers have discovered that the heat exchanger can age prematurely if the coolant circuit runs at too high a temperature, causing fluid to leak and the engine to overheat.

The fault affects Golf and Jetta 1.6 and 1.8-litre models built between 1983 and 1989. About 100,000 have been sold in Britain. Volkswagen is trying to trace the owners.

Renault, meanwhile, is still struggling to cope with the recall of Espace turbo diesels for a new fuse and clamp to be fitted, to prevent the fires which have struck at least 40 vehicles. Several owners have reported that dealers told them they must wait for a formal recall letter from Renault before anything can be done.

The company insisted yesterday that dealers had been instructed to carry out the first part of the modification as soon as owners contacted them. This involves fitting a plastic retaining clip to keep the fuel filter outlet away from electrical wiring. Renault said it would investigate cases where the repair was not done immediately.



The VW Golf: fixing fault will cost the company £60 million

The accusations of "indifference" received by *Car 95* include Renault's lack of action over the flooding problem. Tim Baker, of Guildford, Surrey, was travelling in his parents' Renault Clio 1.9 diesel last December when it stopped immediately after going through shallow floodwater.

"I was astounded when the mechanic called out to the car said it would need a new engine. Renault said the same when their engineers eventually saw it. The problem had been caused because the air intake was positioned behind the front bumper and had sucked water into the engine, making it seize.

"There was nothing in the handbook to warn us of the danger but when we raised this with Renault, the company said we must have driven through deep water and it was our fault. Our insurance company is still trying to resolve the matter with Renault but in the meantime my parents have been stranded without a car for two months".

The same problem has affected the Espace, leaving Jill Buque, of Worthing, Sussex, with a repair bill for £3,000, for which Renault will not accept liability. Royston Morgan, of Nottingham, discovered the engine of his Espace would cut out while driving through heavy rain and spray on motorways. Frustrated by Renault's indifference, he has carried out his own modification, adding an extra piece of pipe to the air intake and clipping it higher up in the engine compartment.

Renault said the positioning of the air intake was common to several other manufacturers and that drivers often failed to judge hazards such as standing water. He added that warnings would be carried in new handbooks.

Ken Walker, of Burnham, Buckinghamshire, saw his Citroen BX19TRS go up in smoke after parking it outside a local supermarket last December. There had been no previous hint of trouble and he believes a potentially lethal mechanical or design fault was to blame. The car was still covered by an extended warranty but Citroën has offered no compensation and left him to negotiate with his insurance company.

"My concern remains the manufacturers' indifference," he said. "Citroën UK's head office is only minutes from where the vehicle was taken after the incident yet the company chose not to examine it, offered no apology and certainly no recompense".

More Cavalier owners have complained of Vauxhall's lack of interest following fires similar to those reported in *Car 95* last week. Owners and insurers believe a design fault has caused the fires in 1988-91 cars.

Garry Campbell, of Inverness, whose 1988 Cavalier escaped serious damage in a similar incident, has offered a possible explanation. "My fire was traced to the ignition switch and mechanics have told me this is a common fault with older Cavaliers. The first sign of other fires was near the switch and a fault with it would explain why starter motors and other equipment came on suddenly."

202mph. One careful lady owner

JAMES MORGAN



Devil of a job to drive? Nonsense, says Sue Phillips of her £144,000 bright red Lamborghini Diablo. 'Supercars are just not the impossible beasts so many men would have you believe"

The supercar is not just for road Rambos. Sue Phillips, who is smitten with speed, talks to **Helen Mound**

Sue Phillips is a rare breed. Parked on her lawn is a Toyota Hilux pick-up "for mucky days". In her drive is the Ferrari-lookalike Honda NSX "for when I don't feel like thinking too hard about my driving". And filling all the space in her double garage is a bright red 5.7-litre V12 Lamborghini Diablo. "I take it out when I'm in the mood for serious driving." This collection of cars is Sue's preferred choice over buying her own home.

Stepping into the male-dominated world of high performance motoring is a brave move for any woman. For Sue, it was an act of defiance. "In the past, if I showed an interest in something like a Ferrari, I'd get a chorus of men telling me how difficult and complicated they were to drive. There was lots of head-shaking and tut-tutting.

"The first time I drove a Diablo, I realised what a myth all that was. They're not the impossible beasts so many men would have you believe."

songwriter, Sue would rather feed her supercar habit than invest in buying a house. Though she lives in a rented cottage in East Anglia, she has a collection of cars worth more than £200,000, which prove a satisfactory replacement for husband and home.

There are two striking features about Sue and her Diablo. That the car has clocked up the equivalent of 3,000 miles since she bought it new, seven months ago, demonstrates how often she's "in the mood for serious driving". She also has an extraordinary talent for imitating the sound of high-performance cars at full throttle, a skill usually possessed only by small boys.

"I remember hearing the note of the Lambo's engine for the first time, accelerating through an underpass," a note she can growl time and time again as she recalls stories of her motoring "conquests" and rolls her eyes.

At last year's British Grand Prix, she detected a feeling of camaraderie from other women as she roared up in her new car. "It makes most men feel uncomfortable and jealous, but women seem to see the funny side of that.

"It's also amusing when a guy in a Ferrari spots it's a woman driving the Diablo. You can see him thinking 'how vulgar' but I can think 'how slow'."

Sue occasionally finds the world of supercars unwelcoming to women. She was not surprised when McLaren refused her a test drive of its new F1, even when the request for the car had gone through *The Times*. A spokeswoman for the company claimed it didn't feel a feature with Sue was suitable coverage for the car.

Generally, the industry has treated her well, though. Lamborghini delivered the four-wheel-drive VT Diablo to her home for a test drive and Ferrari lent her the new F355. "On the whole, it's male drivers who try to put women off these cars," she said. "Most manufacturers are quite happy to gain a feminine appeal."

Becoming the proud owner of a £143,937 Diablo wasn't enough, however. Sue wanted to prove herself worthy of owning it. "I knew I wasn't as good as the car, so I spent six months training to take the RoSPA advanced driving test. Now I'm safe driving the car in snow, ice, fog, floods, you name it. When the Diablo kicks out, I know how to handle it." So now zipping to the supermarket in her 202mph Lamborghini sports-car isn't only one of the most thrilling parts of her day, it's also one of the safest.

Sue is tempted to take her Diablo to the Nardo test track in Italy, one of the few places in Europe where it could be pushed to its limits. "I'd like to go just once. Just to say I've done 200mph in my car." She lets out another boyish engine roar and there's more eye-rolling. "After that I'm not sure. I'm thinking about buying the F355 but then there's the Bugatti EB110, the Ferrari F130, the Lamborghini P140 ..."

The money Sue spends on cars might seem astronomical, but then she points out: "I can't believe there are women who spend £40,000 on a kitchen.

"You know, there are some people who just don't like cars," she says incredulously.

WHERE YOU CAN PUT YOUR FOOT DOWN

ANYBODY who owns a high-performance sports car understands the desire to find out "what it does", (Helen Mound writes).

The huge flat radius of the circular Nardo test track in Italy allows supercar drivers the rare chance to reach speeds in excess of 200mph. It is claimed to be the longest, fastest and safest test track in Europe.

The rich, fast and famous can drive on UK circuits, but only at more conservative speeds.

True supercar enthusiasts join the 96 Club, which was dreamt up for owners of "nice cars". It organises private track meetings at Brands Hatch, Silverstone, Donington, Thruxton, Mallory Park, Castle Combe and Goodwood. The club's joining fee is £293, annual membership is £470 and each club day — 14 this year — costs £59.

Porsche, De Tomaso, Ferrari and Lamborghini all organise "driving days" for customers at race tracks around the country, which usually include testing the latest models.

Most manufacturers also employ a race driver to give demonstrations. Honda has just signed Jonathan Palmer, the former Formula One driver, to give all new NSX buyers instruction at the Bruntingthorpe track in Leicestershire.

Goodwood in West Sussex (0243 789660), costing £2,000-£3,000 a day, is the most popular track for private hire, while at Brands Hatch in Kent (0474 872331), £5,150 buys a day's exclusive use of the short Indy circuit, complete with medical support and marshals.

For a "one-off" experience on a race track, Carrera Sports organises driving days for Lamborghini, Porsche and Ferrari owners. Held at Goodwood on bank holidays throughout the summer, drivers pay £70-£80 to let rip in their cars without the worry of speeding fines. *96 Club Ltd: 0171 584 9536. Carrera Sports: 0444 455100.*

NEWS IN BRIEF

Low cost of unleaded petrol in Britain

British motorists buy the third cheapest unleaded petrol in Europe, according to the latest AA monthly survey.

The national average of 53.5p a litre (243p a gallon) was beaten only by Spain at 53.42p and Greece with 51.49p. Unleaded in France costs 69.71p

Limited success

More than half the allocation of 300 of Volvo's limited edition 850 T-5R models have been sold, finding customers as diverse as a peer, a newspaper editor and a number of buyers deserting Saab, BMW and Porsches, according to Martyn Webb, manager of customer operations for Volvo.

Loads of Ladas

Lada has imported 333,333 cars through its Carnaby Import Centre at Bridlington, East Yorkshire. The company has its own assembly line which upgrades the Russian-built models with new components and special features for the United Kingdom marketplace.

Honda in front

Honda leads Britain's motorcycle sales charts with registrations at more than 13,400 last year and still rising. The company accounts for 27 per cent of the UK market selling machines from tiny mopeds to the CBR900RR Fireblade.

Rover's return

If George Edwards had planned to buy a Rover, nobody would have minded: Mr Edwards took a £6,000 loan with AA Financial Services to buy a new car but when the cheque landed on the mat of his home in Kettering, Northants, Freddie the dog decided lunch had been served and promptly ate it. The AA says that normally a replacement cheque would have taken several days — but as Freddie was clearly *not* planning to



cash it, a new one was *sent* immediately so Mr Edwards could buy his Peugeot 309 diesel.

Sloping off

An unusual result of the BMW buyout of Rover will be seen this weekend. Land Rover and BMW are jointly sponsoring two World Cup ski races, the women's downhill and the Super G at Saalbach. Land Rover says as many as four in ten customers enjoy skiing.

Budget buy

Peugeot has a new entry level model for buyers on a budget. The 106XN, with one-litre, 50bhp petrol engine and four-speed gearbox, joins the range at £6,695, some £700 under the previous base car price.

Up, up and away

Bob Lutz, president of Chrysler, has decided on a quicker way to travel than four wheels by buying a Czech air force



Lutz: high flyer

jet trainer. Lutz, a former US Marine Corps fighter pilot, is thought to have spent about £134,000 ($200,000) on the two-seater Aero L-39 Albatros jet.

At your service

Kia Mentor models bought over the next month qualify for three years' free servicing. The offer goes with two new Mentor special edition models, the GLX SE at £10,250

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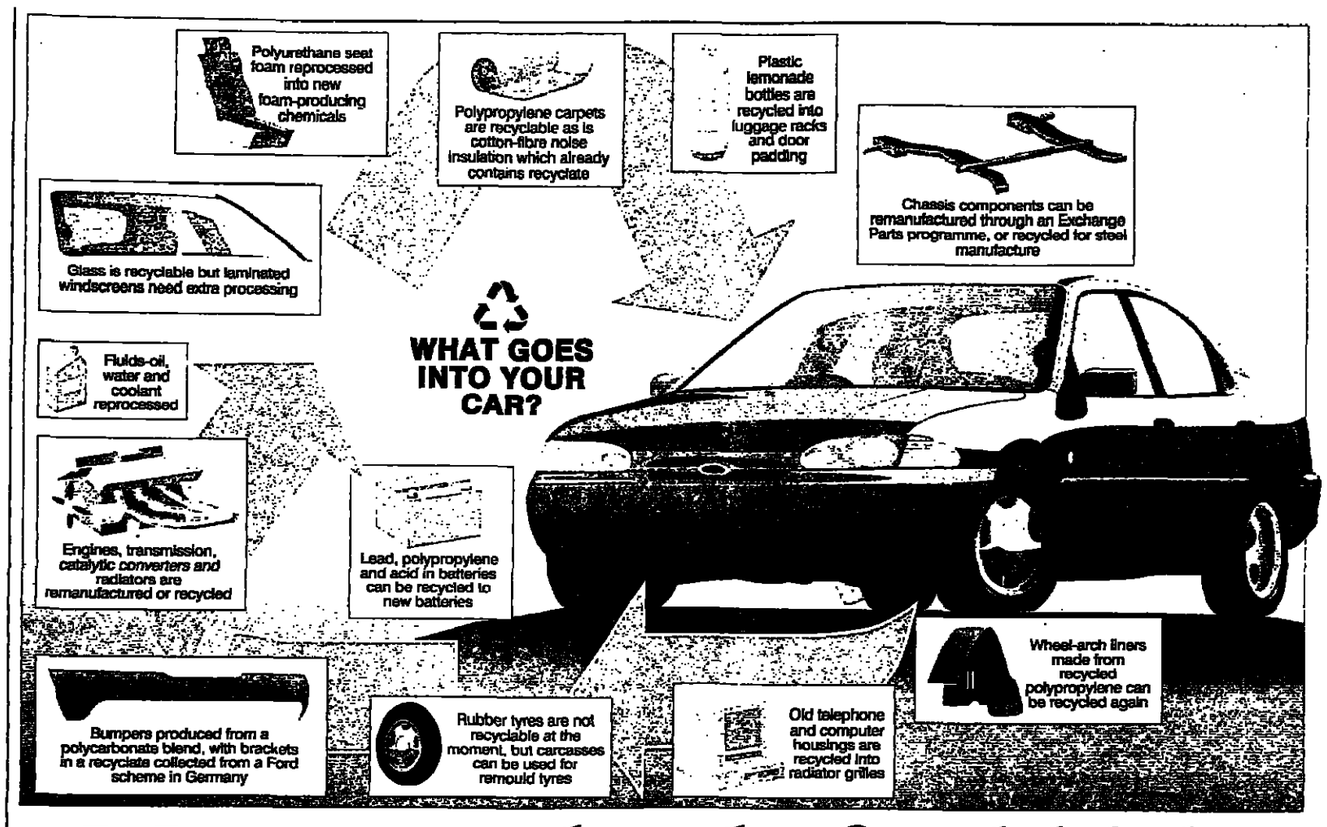
Ten ways you can put a stop to faulty brakes

A CAMPAIGN to inform drivers, especially women, about the dangers of faulty or ill-maintained brakes has been launched by Mintex Don, the leading manufacturer of brake pads.

It is believed that braking problems contribute to a significant number of accidents. And Mintex also discovered, while preparing the campaign, that women were on average paying more when their cars were serviced. There was evidence that garages were charging women for unnecessary replacement parts because they were assumed to understand less about their cars.

The "Driving Home Safety" campaign based on leaflets being distributed through garages and other outlets sets out 10 hints on brake maintenance:

- **☐ Check the brake pedal travel before every journey.**
- **☐ Make sure replacement brake parts are high quality.**
- **☐ Listen for noisy brakes. Get them checked if you hear anything unusual.**
- **☐ If your car pulls to one side on braking, get it checked.**
- **☐ Check the brake fluid reservoir once a week and keep it topped-up.**
- **☐ Replace the fluid at the manufacturer's recommended intervals.**
- **☐ Replace hydraulic components and flexible hoses as recommended.**
- **☐ If brake pads or shoes wear out frequently under normal driving check the whole system. Modern brake pads and shoes should last a minimum of 15,000 miles.**
- **☐ Ensure the system is checked regularly by a professional.**
- **☐ In wet weather, remember brake performance will vary. *Apply brakes softly to remove surplus water.***



My car's a load of rubbish!

Millions of plastic bottles and other rubbish are being recycled as car parts, reports **Vaughan Freeman**

Cars made of junk from waste tips and which, cannibal-like, devour the used parts of their predecessors, will feature heavily in the environmentally-sound motoring world that is already taking shape.

In America, Ford cars and trucks are being built using plastic recovered from Coca Cola and Pepsi bottles, scrapped telephone casings and computer housings, and ground-up bumpers. Now the car giant is examining ways of ensuring its materials suppliers in the UK and the rest of Europe go "green" and supply its plants with so-called "post-consumer" recycled material.

Susan Day, Ford's vehicle recycling co-ordinator, says: "*Plastic soda bottles are recycled into luggage racks and* door padding. Old telephone and computer housings are recycled into grilles, and used tyres are transformed into brake-pedal pads.

"Cars are already one of the most recycled consumer products and we are trying to push it to the limits. But it has to make economic sense. We have told suppliers we want 25 per cent of the material they send us to have a post-consumer content — that is to have been used before as something else — at a price that matches or is lower than non-recycled material."

About 50 million plastic bottles a year are turned into bits for new Fords. The bottles are collected in roadside bins, or customers return them and collect a deposit at local shops.

The bottles, plus phone and computer housings, are cleaned up, then ground down into flakes before being reprocessed into pellets. These are then moulded into shapes such as inner door linings, or are mixed with glass for strength, before being shaped into headlight components, moulded front grilles on pick-up trucks, and roof-rack side rails on the US version of the Escort.

Even the plastic bottle tops are reused, as fan shrouds which direct cool air from the radiator to the engine. Plastic battery housings become wheel-arch splash shields.

Might motorists baulk at driving a car cobbled together from old tyres and bottles? Day says: "Most of a car, 75 per cent by weight, is steel and metal, and all of that has been recycled from somewhere else already. We are talking here about the remaining 25 per cent, including plastics, textiles, rubber, adhesives, paint, glass and composites." She said no compromises would be made on quality or performance during the greening process.

Ford is also working on making cars easier to dismantle at the end of their useful lives. The firm hopes to establish in Europe centres at which engineers use computers to find out exactly what a vehicle's components are made of, how to strip them off — and how much the recycling market will pay for them.

In 1991, Ford opened a pilot disassembly plant in Germany to find ways of economically stripping a car of parts that can be used again. Seats of old cars are stripped down to their plastic, metal and foam components, and fluids such as radiator and air conditioning coolants are drained and reprocessed.

Wheel arches on the Mondeo are made from recycled polypropylene, and damaged plastic bumpers are ground down and remoulded into radiator grilles for new models.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The diesel engine

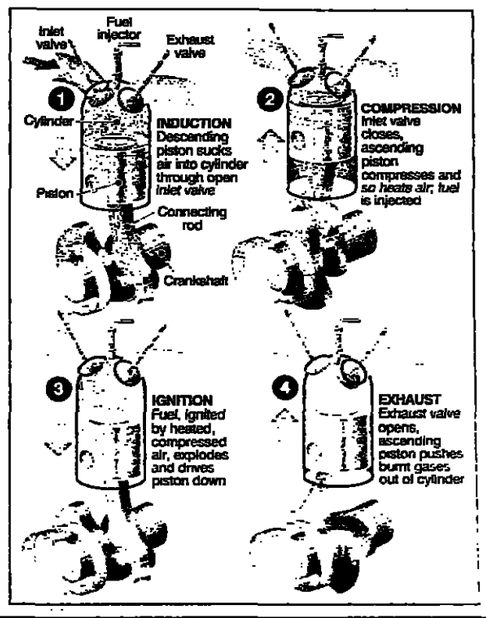
IN A petrol engine, air and fuel are let into the cylinder at the same time. The mixture is compressed by *the piston to a high pressure* and ignited by the spark plug. The exploding mixture expands rapidly, driving down the piston, which rotates the crankshaft to generate power.

With the diesel engine, only air enters the cylinder initially. This is compressed to a much higher pressure than in the petrol *engine. Just as a bicycle* pump heats up as it compresses air, the effect of this compression is to heat the air to a very high temperature..

Diesel fuel is then sprayed into the cylinder in a fine mist to mix with the hot air. The mixture ignites spontaneously, expands, and drives down the piston for the power stroke.

Most commercial diesel engines use direct injection, the most efficient method, in which the fuel is *sprayed direct into the* cylinder. Most diesel cars use Indirect Injection, where fuel is injected first into a pre-chamber where the combustion process begins. The explosive mixture is then shot into the main cylinder through a narrow inlet. This speeds up combustion for faster engine running and makes for a *smoother run, but is slightly* less efficient.

The diesel engine is more efficient than the petrol because the fuel *mixture* is hotter and burns more efficiently, and because there is always enough air in the cylinder to burn all the fuel injected into it (in a petrol engine, this happens only when the car is going flat out).



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93K	230TE	Silver, Blue Cloth, Auto, Rear Facing Seat, 8497, Stereo	2T	£22,995	
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94M	E220	Bornite, Cream Cloth, AT, RHR, FAR, WW, 2 Air Bags	11T	£23,995	
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94M	E320 Mel, hde, ecs.	1T	£36,950
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93L	E220T Auto rst, esr.	3T	£28,950
94L	E280T auc, hde, ww, 8 hdbays.	10T	£30,950
94M	E280D T Met, hde, rs, ww.	15T	£31,950
95H	300CE 24v Met, hde, a/c, es.	2T	£38,950
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94M	E220 Auto, Dark Blue, 9T	9T	£25,995
93K	230E Auto, Dark Blue, 15T	15T	£21,495
91H	230TE Auto, Avalanche, 28T	28T	£21,495
91H	230TE Auto, Avalanche, 54T	54T	£17,995
91J	300E 24V 8Sp Auto, Silver, 16S, 52T	52T	£22,995
92K	300 Cpe 24V Auto, Almandine, 25T	25T	£33,995
94L	E220CDT Auto, Brilliant Silver, 18T	18T	£25,995
93L	E280DT Auto, Pearl Blue, 11T	11T	£27,995
94L	E300D Est Auto, Silver, 11T	11T	£29,995
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92J	230E Auto Met, esr, evs, abs.	21T	£19,850
92K	230E Auto Met, ww, esr, evs.	10T	£20,950
94M	E220 Auto ww, esr.	1T	£27,950
93L	E320 AMG, au, hde.	20T	£32,950
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92K	230TE Auto Met, a/c, rs.	24T	£24,950
93L	E220T Auto rst, esr.	3T	£28,950
94L	E280T auc, hde,		

It's all a question of attitude. **Heather Kirby** takes the AA's new psychological self-assessment test for motorists

Get your driving brain in gear for a mental MoT

I am a safe driver, considerate of passengers and other road users and I rarely break the speed limit. This paragon profile emerged after I completed a psychological self-assessment computer programme.

The 48 questions are tailored to test attitude rather than driving skill because, according to Matthew Joint, assistant head of the AA's road safety unit who devised the questions, the difference between a good driver and a bad driver is attitude, the difference in skill is relatively small.

But what about the two cars I have written off? My answers show, he said, that I may be over-cautious and that could make me unsafe. "But nobody is perfect and one of the main skills is learning to deal with your mistakes."

The police said after one of my accidents that I should have hit the car which came out in front of me instead of swerving to avoid it and smashing into a tree. Mr Joint agrees. "You'll know next time," he assured me.

And what about the black ice which caused me to pulp a Mercedes? "Even if you had skid-pan training, by the time you realise you've hit black ice there is no time to react. Your attitude wasn't at fault and since you've had a long driving career it would be surprising if nothing untoward had happened.

"What keeps you out of trouble is learning to spot what makes a situation dangerous in the first place. The point about a psychology test is it makes you think more about the possibility of potential hazards and that is less painful. You learnt the hard way."

Although the Learner Driver Questionnaire is geared towards 16 to 19-year-olds, it also contains plenty of advice to help experienced drivers avoid taking risks. One part of the programme suggests giving yourself a mental MoT every two months by asking questions including, Have I had any near misses? Were they my fault? What could I have done to avoid them?

Mr Joint and his team used research from Southampton University which showed that young drivers are not unsafe because of lack of skill but because they don't use their skills. The Department of Transport is sending 5,000 copies of the questionnaire, which is on floppy disk, to state secondary schools as part of a spring road safety campaign and an adult version is being developed.

Andrew Howard, head of road safety for the AA, said: "Thirty-five per cent of young drivers have the wrong attitude and if we can start them thinking about the chinks in their personality we can start to remedy them."

The test is colourful and fun. After the self-assessment part you can click into a series of boxes which give advice, statistics and statements you have to decide are true or false. There are striking illustrations such as an elephant in the back seat of a car to emphasise the weight of a body being thrown through a windscreen and right-on messages about moody and mean drivers such as "alcohol knackers you out".

For information about the self-assessment test contact: Road Safety Unit, The Automobile Association, Norfolk House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG24 9NY. Tel: 0256-492192.

How students fared with the AA's test

THE first part of the AA's self-assessment test consists of 48 statements to which you can answer — strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree.

Here is a sample:

☐ If I cause an accident because of stupidity, I hope I am the one who gets hurt.
☐ I enjoy giving passengers the occasional scare.
☐ If you know how to handle a car you can take a few risks.
☐ It is easy to break speed limits accidentally.
☐ Being cautious takes all the fun out of driving.

Students attending the St Thomas the Apostle College, Nunhead, southeast London, whizzed through a sample test.

They said there was no point cheating because they were keen to know how good or bad they would be as drivers.

The final score is divided into six categories — oneself, others, on-board, risk, speed and safety. Someone who fails in any category can then call up a new series of computer information and images on that specific subject.

Older people, according to the AA's Matthew Joint, take far longer because they tend to try to work out what is the "correct" response.

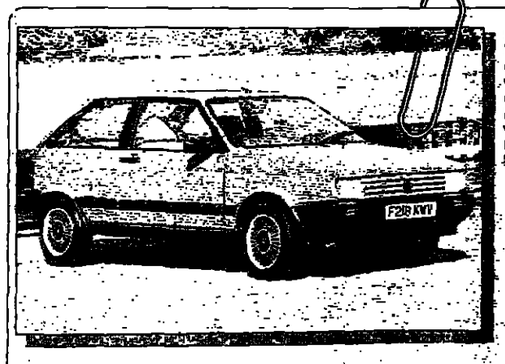
The pupils were open about their failings, gleefully shouting out each other's "at risk" scores — "Hey, Malcolm knows nothing about safety!" "You're a danger to your passengers!" "Pete's failed every category!"

The computer programme is enjoyable and brightly coloured. Its quizzes, statistics and homilies are user-friendly.

A statement in the "on-board influences" section was one many of the schoolboys recognised: "Some drivers treat their passengers as an audience they are desperate to impress." It was greeted with cries of — "My brother's like that, he goes round corners on two wheels." "His dad drives on the pavement!"

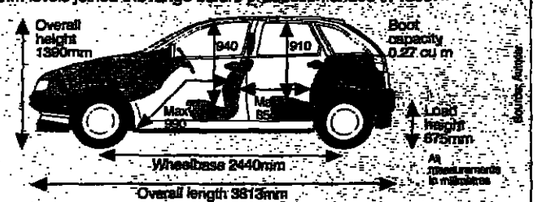
But they were more interested in the sobering statistics about young male drivers such as: "Young men are seven times more likely to die as passengers than anyone else". Their comments ranged from "I never knew that" to "That's scary."

USED CAR BRIEF



SEAT IBIZA

When it launched the front-wheel drive Ibiza in 1985 the Spanish firm drew on some of the most famous names in motoring history. The car was styled by Guigiaro, and the initial 1.2-litre and 1.5-litre engines were designed by Porsche. Seat was taken over by Volkswagen in 1986. Made in three and five-door hatch derivatives, the 1.2 and 1.5 engines were followed by a 903cc Fiat engine, a more powerful 1.5-litre, and a major facelift in 1989. A 1.7-litre diesel, fuel-injected SXi and host of new trim levels joined the range before production ended in 1993.



GOOD NEWS: Upmarket GLX and SXi models offer especially good value for money, with all sorts of creature comforts such as central locking, alloy wheels and electric windows. The 1.7-litre diesel engine was publicised as Britain's most economical when launched in 1990.

BAD NEWS: The low-geared steering can be surprisingly heavy for a small car, not helped by the fact that the front wheels are unusually susceptible to being knocked out of alignment by careless kerbing.

LOOK FOR: Cars built after the 1989 facelift are the most attractive proposition because they benefitted comprehensively from VW improvements, including uprated interiors.

TO AVOID: Pre-1986 cars, made before VW improved build quality and reliability.

PRICE RANGE: Expect to pay around £5,000 for 1993 K-reg 1.5-litre SXi three-door, £2,500 for a 1990 G-reg 1.5-litre GLX five-door and £4,000 for a 1993 K-reg 1.7-litre diesel SL.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a Seat Ibiza GLX will cost a 55-year old male, with full no claims bonus living in Winchester £163.25 a year for comprehensive cover. A similar female will pay £148.63. A 22-year old male with one year's no claims bonus living in south London will pay £471 fully comprehensive, and a similar female will pay £417.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT); Clutch assembly £130; full exhaust £260; front damper £60; rear damper £65; front brakepads £25; alternator £210; starter motor £200; tyre £40.

SAFETY RATING: The Ibiza comes in the middle of its class according to latest Department of Transport analysis of risk of driver injury. It puts the Ibiza ahead of the Nissan Sunny, Peugeot 309 and Skoda Estelle, but behind the Rover 200/400 and Citroen ZX.

OVERALL: An inexpensive car, made all the more attractive as the arrival of the new Ibiza in 1993, based on the VW Polo, pushed down prices of the original version. Late-model, highly specified cars provide VW-based motoring as an economical alternative to dearer rivals.

50 BESTSELLING USED CARS

MODEL	PRICE Feb-95	Mar-95	Chge
Rover 820 Si 4dr	14095	13895	-1.42
Nissan Primera 2.0 SGX 5dr	10495	10495	0.00
Honda Accord 2.0i LS 4dr	13550	13195	-2.62
Mazda 626 1.8 GLX 5dr	11650	11195	-3.91
Volvo 480 2.0 ES 3dr	12550	12350	-1.60
Vauxhall Cavalier 2.0 SRi 16V 5dr	11295	10995	-2.66
Ford Mondeo 2.0Si 4dr	11150	10750	-3.59
Renault Clio 16V 3dr	10595	10595	0.00
Citroen Xantia 1.8L SX 5dr	11150	11095	-0.50
Chrysler Wrangler 4.0 2dr	13295	12995	-2.26
Subara Legacy 2.0 GL Est.	12695	12550	-1.15
Saab 900 2.0i S 5dr	14250	14250	0.00
Renault Espace 2.0 RN 5dr	14650	14650	0.00
Peugeot 405 GLD Est.	10250	10150	-0.98
Nissan 200 SX 3dr	13995	14150	1.10
Toyota Carina E Executive 5dr	12895	12550	-2.68
Suzuki Vitara JLX SE 3dr	10950	11150	1.82
Mitsubishi Galant 1.8 GLSi 4dr	10695	10650	-0.43
Hyundai Sonata 2.0 GLX 4dr	10795	10695	-0.93
Ford Granada 2.0 Ghia Auto 4dr	14095	13850	-1.74
Audi 80 1.6 4dr	11095	11150	0.49
Volvo 940 2.0 Wentworth 4dr	14950	14950	0.00
Vauxhall Cavalier V6 Diplomat 5dr	14195	13895	-2.12
Rover 620 Si 4dr	13150	13095	-0.42
Renault Safrane 2.0 RN 5dr	12295	12495	1.62
Peugeot 605 SLi 4dr	12495	12495	0.00
Nissan Serena 2.0 SLX 7st. Est.	13595	13595	0.00
Audi 80 2.0 E 4dr	12650	12695	0.35
Citroen 2.0 ZX 16V 3dr	10250	10550	2.92
Daihatsu Sportrak ELXi 3dr	12450	12295	-1.25
Ford Escort RS 2000 3dr	12595	12550	-0.36
Honda Civic ESi 3dr	10695	10395	-2.81
Mitsubishi Lancer GLXi 5dr	10450	10450	0.00
Peugeot 306 XSi 5dr	11550	11150	-3.47
Toyota Corolla 1.6 Executive 5dr	12095	11995	-0.83
Vauxhall Astra 2.0i Convertible	12095	11695	-3.31
Volkswagen Passat 2.0 GL 4dr	13450	13150	-2.24
Mazda 323 1.6 GLX (SR) 5dr	10495	10395	-0.96
Renault 19 16V 3dr	10750	10595	-1.45
Subara Impreza 1.8 GL Est.	11095	11150	0.49
Vauxhall Calibra 16V 3dr	14950	14495	-3.05
Vauxhall Carlton 2.0 CDXi Auto 4dr	14695	14895	1.36
Citroen XM 2.0i Est.	14195	14195	0.00
Daihatsu Fourtrak TDL 3dr	14150	14295	1.02
Ford Escort 1.8 Ghia TD Est.	10450	10495	0.43
Honda Accord 2.0i LS Coupe 2dr	14795	14495	-2.03
Audi 100 2.0 E 4dr	14250	14250	0.00
Mazda Xedos 6 1.6i 4dr	14250	14195	-0.39
Mitsubishi V6 24V Coupe 5dr	14550	14450	-0.69
Rover 216 Cabriolet 2dr	13350	12895	-3.41

Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices. HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg, low mileage cars. Figures supplied by CAP Nationwide Motor Research.

BUYING a new car is now not so much a question of which model to choose, but which is the best package of "goodies" and discounts available.

However, evidence is growing that price is the key to a deal with many buyers, including purchasers of company cars, increasingly confused and irritated by the package offers from dealers and manufacturers.

PHH, the vehicle management company, discovered 64 per cent of fleet managers were against offers such as free mobile telephones from Ford and Vauxhall. Nearly seven in ten fleet managers just wanted lower sticker prices in the showrooms, worried that free gifts might carry tax implications and ultimately be paid for by their companies anyway.

The National Franchised Dealers' Association has long claimed that the special discounts offered to company car buyers were subsidised by private buyers who pay about 10 per cent, or £1,000, more for the family runabout as a result.

Small talk, page 11

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91 H Sov 3.2 A, Solent Blue/Sea Blue, Air Con, Cruise, 42T ...£15,995
94 M XJ Sport 4.0 A, Latest Model, Turquoise/Charcoal Half Leather, One Owner, 5T ...£34,995
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94K XJS 4.0 A Kingfisher/Magnolia, 7T ...£29,995
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94L Sov 4.0A Met Red, Ltr, AC, 14T ...£29,950
93K XJR 4.0A Met Blue, Ltr, AC, 43T ...£24,950
93K Sov 4.0 A Met Ltr, AC+++, 25T ...£24,950
93K Sov 4.0 A Met Ltr, AC+++, 35T ...£23,950
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93L Sov 3.2 A Met Ltr, AC, 9T ...£25,950
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7 BT	D1 GGA							SJH 1	11 X
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The car that never says die

BY ALAN COPPS

MICHAEL DAVISON drives 33,000 miles a year. So in the past eleven years he has travelled the equivalent of 16 times around the world — in one car: a Mercedes 500SE he bought new in 1984.

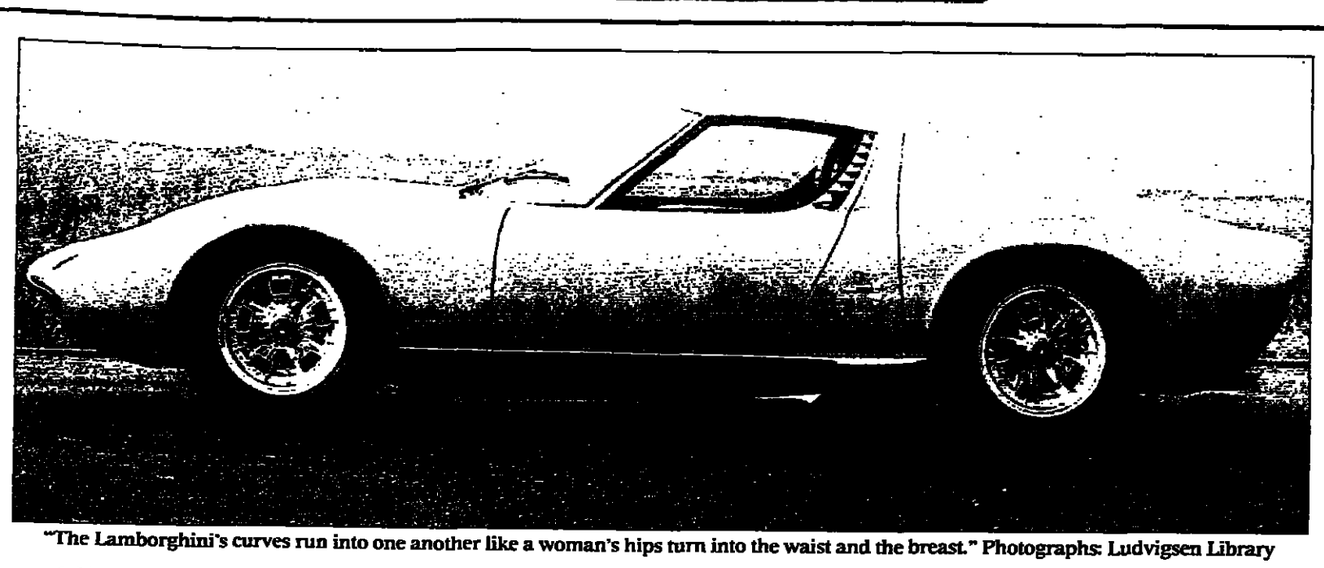
It has 402,000 miles on the clock and has had only one minor breakdown. Mr Davison, a company director, travels constantly between his home in Bedfordshire and farms in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. "But when I come to a farm, this car has to work. It takes me everywhere along the farm tracks."

A Mercedes driver for more than 20 years, Mr Davison has now set a target of half a million miles.

The extraordinary reliability of the petrol car means running costs have been limited to fuel, servicing and new tyres every 35,000 miles. The battery was replaced after 286,000 miles. The only involuntary stop was due to a broken throttle spring — replaced at a cost of 6p.



Davison: on and on



"The Lamborghini's curves run into one another like a woman's hips turn into the waist and the breast." Photographs: Ludvigsen Library

Sexy models aim to drive you crazy

Anna Maxted reports on why some cars exude a sense of the erotic

When the design of a particular Lotus was first exhibited to the company's board, one director was so overcome he declared that he wanted to smear it in olive oil and rub his naked body all over it.

A sports car excites the passions in a way that a dumper truck never could, and if you've ever drooled over the soft curves of a Porsche 911 and dreamed of driving it into the sunset — congratulations are due to its designer, who considered every emotion that he wanted his creation to arouse in you.

The first programme of *Auto Erotic*, a three-part series on car design, narrated by comedian and car fanatic Steve Coogan, (next Tuesday on Channel 4, 9pm) explores why certain sports cars are perceived as masculine or feminine, how a bump or a scoop in their bodywork can evoke strength, speed and vitality — irrespective of engine power — and why some cars exude sex appeal.

According to the producer, Camilla Deakin, a car is seductive in its power of suggestion. "The body of the Lamborghini has curves which run into one another like a woman's hips turn into the waist and the breast. The light darts along the curve of the car and accentuates its flowing shape. If a designer wants a more masculine look, he'll break the curve, as men's bodies are more angular."

Anthropological influences in cars are occasionally blatant, with striking results. The 1966 Lamborghini Muira has black grilling around its headlamps which mimics the heavy eye make-up of Sixties designers such as Mary Quant. This elaborate detail contrasts with the rest of the design, which is quite simple.

At the opposite end of the spectrum is the AC Cobra, an uncompromisingly masculine car. Its chunky exterior indicates the presence of an enormous engine beneath its skin, and its wide tyres are reminiscent of the racetrack. Peter Stevens, designer of the McLaren F1, likens it "to one of those strange bodybuilders. It's over-muscled. Some women ooh and ah when they see one, but it's a bit much for most."

Can we assume then, that the male owner of a Muira regards it as a girlfriend substitute, and that a man drives a Cobra to compensate for his lack of virility? Certainly not, says Mr Stevens: "The willy-extension theory is out of date. Customers for these expensive cars are doing all right in that department because they inevitably come along with a suntanned bimbo. Money is the aphrodisiac, not the car."

He admits that some men do polish their sports cars a little more lovingly than befits an inanimate object. But this, says Mr Stevens, is because devotion to a Ferrari allows a restrained Englishman to show emotion without being dubbed a sissy. He adds: "People like washing cars with a flowing shape, but I don't think they subconsciously believe they're putting suntan oil on their girlfriend's back. I don't think a car is a girlfriend substitute. It may be *additional*."

But sports cars are primarily sexy *not* because of their respective cylinders or curves, but because of the glamour they represent. They are exclusive, expensive, they suggest vibrancy and a dangerous lifestyle; qualities which many people associate with sexuality. But don't be swept away by emotion and engine power. Sports cars are most unsuitable for romantic activity. Mr Stevens says: "The Austin Healey was stupid. You had to fold the back of the seat flat and persuade your girlfriend to get into the boot. That's why hippies have camper vans."



"The black grilling around its headlamps mimics the heavy eye make-up of Sixties designers such as Mary Quant."

DR DASHBOARD

Road hogs: The inside story

Q Why don't the police do something about those stupid drivers who overtake on the inside? They are a danger to everyone.

A "Undertakers", as people who overtake on the inside are known, are a danger and the police are doing something. Moves to sanction undertaking, once considered by ministers, were firmly kicked into touch by the police who see the results daily in mangled metal and bodies. So, motorway police in the Midlands this week started a campaign to keep an eye on bad drivers, some of whom show no more self-discipline than England soccer fans.

Q But what will the police actually do?

A Patrol cars on the M6, M5 and M42 have been programmed with 50 messages, which range from "Do not pass" to "Put Your Phone Down" for drivers who have their mobiles glued to their ears. The messages can be flashed in six languages.

Q How can that help stop the "undertakers" going about their daily business of scaring us half to death?

A The police say they are also on the lookout for drivers who either don't understand or don't want to know about lane discipline. That ranges from lane "hogs" to the daft drivers who use all three lanes because they think they should go quicker than everyone else. "By far the most common reason for tailbacks and delays is poor lane discipline," said John Burbeck, West Mercia's assistant chief constable.

Q So how do we avoid being pulled over by police — and being buzzed by the "undertakers"?

A Simply follow the rules. Motorways are not divided, as some drivers seem to believe, into a slow lane, a fast lane and a very fast lane. The outside two lanes are for overtaking and not for cruising. Don't sit in the middle lane just because it is convenient at 70mph. That is when drivers trapped behind get irritated and provoked into doing something silly.

Q But the middle lane is out of the way of lorries and the "Flash Harrys" of the outside lane who travel at much more than the speed limit. Moving from lane to lane is terrifying.

A Possibly, but that is no answer. There should be no danger if you follow the simple procedure: mirror, signal, manoeuvre. Check all is clear behind, put the indicators on and move across. When you have finished passing, go back to your lane again using the same procedure. The key is to be sure it is safe to move, even by glancing over the right shoulder, and then signalling clearly.

Q We will probably still be challenged by "undertakers" though. They have no worries about going inside because they travel so fast.

A No doubt you will not win a confrontation with the pottiest drivers on the motorways. But the best thing is to let them get on with it and stay well out of their way. They are clearly "hyped up" and going to overtake one way or the other so just let them get on with it. No use both of you having a coronary for the sake of a couple of seconds of driving. Just turn the radio up and relax.

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Alan Copps on the one-door wonder that set a struggling German car maker on the road to riches

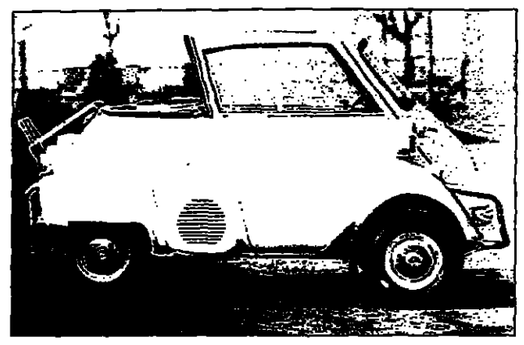
BMW boom was born in a bubble

A 1950s favourite that fetched huge prices in the 1980s celebrates its 40th birthday this weekend





A cute little mover: the bubble car's size made it ideal in traffic





Family favourite: thousands bought the bubble, partly prompted by adverts like that shown left

One of the most endearing and improbable vehicles to have travelled the roads of Europe marks its 40th birthday tomorrow. It was light enough to be lifted by two strong men yet thousands were used as family transport. Stirling Moss and his wife Susie still occasionally drive one around London.

At the height of the classic car boom in the 1980s, prices soared to as much as £30,000, enthusiasts went ex-directory and the location of the barn that held one British collection was kept secret for fear of "rustling".

Put a young car enthusiast in front of one now, however, and he would probably stare in disbelief at the blue and white badge: for the Isetta bubble car was a BMW. Its production in tens of thousands from 1955 is credited with getting the Bavarian company back on its feet after the difficult post-war years, and laying the foundation for the successful series of sporty saloons that have made it one of the prestige marques today.

Bubble cars were something of a speciality for the Germans in the 1950s. Together with BMW, both Messerschmitt and Heinkel, unable to continue aircraft production, turned out these simple, tiny but well-constructed vehicles for a nation desperate for economical transport. Their British rivals, such as the Bond and Frisky, never had quite the same appeal, although they, too, are now collectors' items.

The Isetta was, in the words of BMW, a case of form following function, a philosophy still followed by the company today. The requirement was for a vehicle able to seat two in comfort, carry a small amount of luggage and consume a minimum amount of fuel. The road space occupied followed directly from these compact demands, and it cost just under £275.

Perhaps its most ingenious feature was its door, in effect the entire front of the car: open wide, get in upright and then sit comfortably. Even the upper part of the steering column, complete with steering wheel and instrument panel, swung out on the left-hand hinged door, to facilitate easy access.

The 250cc single-cylinder motorcycle engine was powerful enough to push the 794lb vehicle along at up to 53mph. When you could weave in and out of traffic almost as nimbly as a motorcycle and park easily between two already-parked larger cars, speed didn't seem important.

Driving the Isetta with a passenger was said to be more comfortable if you knew the person well. The steering wheel and pedals were in the same place as those on an ordinary car and the gear lever for the four-speed box was placed conveniently to the driver's left. The company still boasts that if the clutch failed, the car could be driven quite happily without it, starting with a gentle roll in first gear.

The wide track of the front wheels gave the stability and road-holding of a four-wheel car, while the narrow track at the rear gave the manoeuvrability of a motorcycle. Publicity shots of the time showed a smiling child happily sharing the tiny space with mother and father, although many who rode in them remember the experience with a certain amount of pain.

The death knell for the bubble car was sounded in 1959 with the revolutionary design of the Mini, but by then BMW had played a host of variations on the Isetta theme. There was a convertible, a souped-up 300cc version, a mini-van and a special version with just one rear wheel that allowed people in some countries to drive the vehicle on a motorcycle licence rather than face a full driving test.

There was also the BMW 600, the four-seat version that is still run by Stirling Moss. It is identical to the Isetta at the front with the widely hinged door, but had a 600cc motorcycle engine pushing out 19.5bhp to carry a family in comfort. "It's great to drive on a gloomy day because the sight of it makes people smile," says Susie Moss.

Production stopped in 1962 when BMW introduced the 1500, the "great grandfather" of today's 3 series. The concept of the bubble car, or at least the micro-mini, still pops up regularly at motor shows, but none has had the same impact as the Isetta and its contemporaries.

A full-scale revival is unlikely because the shape of the Isetta, with its flat, vulnerable front, would not meet today's more stringent safety requirements.

Hundreds survive in the hands of enthusiasts, however, and with environmental pressures favouring smaller and smaller cars, there are plenty who believe the bubble has not finally burst.

Isetta Owners' Club, 111 Heronscroft, Covingham, Swindon, Wiltshire SN3 5AW.

Reborn Polo is a wheel little sweetie

What was once a shopping trolley for the old has been hugely improved, says **Kevin Eason**



The roomy, smooth Polo 1.6GL, £10,499, top speed 107mph, gives 32.8mpg around town. Insurance group 7

There was a time when I would have to be dragged kicking and screaming into a small hatchback, they were such nasty, unpleasant things. They were all too cramped, too noisy and too uncomfortable ... and then came Volkswagen's new Polo.

The chaps at VW have been having a hard time of it lately. After the runaway successes of the Beetle and Golf, somebody seemed to have thrown away the design studio's best pencil. The next generation of cars were worthy enough — the latest Golf and Passat, for example — but so dull that even John Major could outshine them.

Then came the Polo. What a minor miracle this little car is; it not only looks good but rides and handles as well as many bigger rivals, and is comfortable and roomy.

British buyers have long known the Polo as the shopping trolley of the elderly. You know the sort: him in the driver's seat with the trilby and her in sensible hat and overcoat, even on a stifling summer's day, the happy pair trundling along at 20mph with indicators treated as an optional extra. The occupants were usually as interesting as their hatchback, which looked as gloomy as it could be while its rivals were all surging into new shapes and styles.

The Polo came only as a three-door, which ruled it out of 60 per cent of sales in the market for small hatchbacks, which demanded five-door cars. Even so, its qualities of proven reliability and sturdiness managed to outweigh its dogged dullness to the point that more than 440,000 have been sold in this country in the past 20 years.

Then came the new Polo. Clearly, somebody had given the Wolfsburg designers their pencil back, because this is about the only small hatchback I would want to own. For a start, son of Polo has put on some beef: the new car is 85mm wider and 75mm taller than its predecessor and feels it, with lots of leg, head and elbow room.

VW's designers have also played a clever trick by lengthening the distance between the wheels by 65mm to 2,400mm, exactly the same wheelbase as the original and much larger Golf. Yet the Polo is 50mm shorter than the old version, with the wheels tucked tightly to each corner of the car.

That has transformed the ride. Small cars normally feel every bump because the chassis has so little time to absorb the impact on the front wheels before the rear wheels come along and take the same battering. The Polo's extra wheelbase helps to smooth the ride and irons out even the most potholed city streets.

I tested the 1.6GL, a model that retails at about £10,000 with all the electrical gadgets you could want. German companies have traditionally been reluctant to offer lots of extras as standard but their reticence has been swept away by the need to compete head-on with gadget-laden rivals from the likes of Ford and Vauxhall. So the Polo in GL form comes with electric sunroof, anti-lock brakes and power steering.

I have no idea whether VW intended the end result but what they have produced is the perfect executive mini-cruiser for the 1990s. Consider the average company car driver, plying his or her trade up and down the motorways in cars much too big for the job. The excuse is that they deserve the home comforts that a big car gives — but they do burn up a gallon of petrol every 25 miles.

> 'This small car is the perfect executive cruiser for the 1990s'

Buy a Polo instead, get an extra 10 miles to the gallon and still enjoy plenty of comfort. Parking is easier — power steering is standard on all but the base models — insurance premiums are lower and the Polo is prettier.

There is no disturbing engine or tyre noise at motorway speeds and the little car has enough acceleration to keep even the heaviest right foot in the fleet happy.

VW has also, at last, addressed the issue of security, not one of its top subjects in the past. Every petrol-engine model comes with an electronic immobiliser and there are also new Sony security radios with removable fronts. VW says the radio fascia can be popped into a pocket when you leave the car but I think the idea is a pain; I have left more than enough radio fronts in jackets, office drawers and restaurants. Why not just fit an integral coded system, like clever Vauxhall?

That is carping, for the Polo offers a driving environment that few cars — big or small — can match. It feels more robust than French or Italian rivals, better designed than anything from Britain and sets new standards for comfort.

It is an excellent little car and you would not have to drag me into it at all. I would go happily, even whistling and looking forward to the trip. If only all small cars were like this.

Helen Mound relives her 'privileged' education

One L of a lesson in how to rally

What's it like at 100mph on mud?

Damned scary

OH, mother, why didn't I listen to you? "Get a *nice* job," she said. "Something feminine." Had I listened, I wouldn't be taking my first ride in a rally car, watching Welsh forest flash inches past my nose, unfocused, with my breakfast threatening to make an untimely return.

I'm the only female motoring writer "privileged" to ride in one of Renault's new Clio Williams rally cars. Strapped in the only passenger seat of this shelled-out 130mph hatchback, on a miserable, cold, wet day, with mud splattering in from all angles and every tree in north Wales hurtling towards us at impossible speeds, there's little I can do but practice holding my breath.

My tormentor is Renault's great new hope, 26-year-old Robbie Head, the youngest-ever winner of the RAC Rally's production car title. He's an amiable young Scot with a soft Lanarkshire accent and remarkable mild manners, but right now the red mist is over his eyes. Two and a half miles of treacherous, wet, hard-flint forest-track lie ahead, and he is ready to obliterate absolutely anything that gets in his path.

Tearing around forests in a £90,000 rally car, leaping logs, making spectacular 360 degree handbrake turns, and straining my neck muscles in an attempt to keep my head attached to my shoulders, is not my idea of fun. Particularly when I'm not in control and am supposed to have my head buried in a map.

After two days practice, the forest tracks are incredibly greasy, but that doesn't slow Robbie. Oh, Nicole, if you could see what this man is doing to your beloved Clio. "What do you mean, this is the straight?" We're doing 100mph through a series of bends you can't see round and he calls this a straight. There's a sixth gear to go and the car is still pulling like a three-year-old in Hamleys.

A quick flick on the steering wheel, Robbie snatches the handbrake feverishly and we're speeding out of a 180 degree spin towards yet more trees. Chunks of slate are clattering in the wheelarches and the Clio's rear-end is slithering about like a duck on a frozen pond.

The wipers are making a pathetic attempt to clear the muddy water from the windscreen, but it's sufficient to see the crater ahead. Oh boy, this is going to hurt. There's a sickening crack as the Clio jolts in and out of the flint-filled hole at 90mph — was it a tree, the car ... or my neck?

IN truth, with Robbie's eight years experience in rallying, I couldn't be in safer hands. I'm surprised by the overwhelming sensation of speed inside these cars, but I am also genuinely amazed at how smoothly he can extract the performance. Contrary to the outside impression that rallying is mayhem, from the inside there's not the least feeling that the driver is out of control.

Robbie, who is both an accomplished rally hand and an experienced test and development driver, will be at the forefront of Renault's assault on the Mobil 1/Top Gear British Rally Championship. There will be two cars in the company's team, the other driven by Frenchman Alain Orielle, a former world rally champion. The co-driver who surrendered his seat to me is Ulsterman Terry Harryman, one of the UK's top rally navigators.



Ready for action: the author with driver Robbie Head

Andrew Pierce meets a driving force behind 10cc, on the road again

'Only give cars to people in odd-numbered houses'

One of the biggest selling bands of the 1970s, the mighty 10cc, are making a comeback. They have re-released their most popular hit, *I'm Not In Love*, with the help of Paul McCartney, Tim Rice and George Martin. Graham Gouldman, pianist and guitarist, and a driving force behind the band, is delighted to be back on the road.

How did you first learn to drive?

I passed after nine lessons with my father, who always warned me that every other driver was a lunatic. He's right. I was working at Bargains Unlimited, a gents' outfitters in Salford. My heart wasn't in it. I used to arrive late and sneak off early in the car, to play in a band. I was sacked. It was the best thing that ever happened to me.

What was your first car?

A yellow Triumph Vitesse. It was good for pulling. But then whatever car I drove seemed to be good for that. It seemed go with the job of a pop star.

What car do you drive now and why?

A metallic blue Mercedes 260E. It's reliable, safe and stylish. Rather like me.

Do you enjoy driving?

Yes. It gives me a chance to listen to all the music I want to, at whatever volume, without fear of distraction from my wife and children. I have some of my best lyrical ideas when I drive on the M62. For some reason it has a meditative quality.

STEERING COLUMN

What is your dream car?

An Aston Martin Virage. One of my first cars was an Aston Martin Volante, which cost £15,000 in the 1960s. It drew huge crowds wherever I went. If only the band had the same effect in the earliest days.

What is your most hated car?

Anything which has been stretched. The Volvo, for instance. Horrible.

What is your worst habit in the car?

I think I am a perfect driver so I had to ask my wife. She says when the radio is on I sing and harmonise to the discomfort of my passengers, who must be oblivious to the fact I am a musician. When I play the steering wheel, I apparently endanger the entire family.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

Motorists who drive up behind me. If it's during the day I put my sidelights on as if I am braking. To no avail. Three times they have gone into the back of the beloved Mercedes.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

The obvious. I will not discuss. But I once enjoyed an eight-course Indian meal, complete with cutlery and napkins, with the rest of 10cc. The onion bhajis were amazing. But the smell lingered for weeks. It was a bit messy on the front seat.

Have you ever had points on your licence?

I was done for parking on a zig zag crossing outside an off-licence as I was stocking up with drinks for Christmas. I begged the beak not to ban me as I needed the car to drive home to Rochdale from the studio at 3am every day. He missed the point. He told me, in deadly earnestness, to consult the bus timetable. Apart from the fact there are no buses at 3am, I didn't fancy the extra fare for my guitar and keyboards!

What do you listen to in the car?

As there is so much music in my life, I listen to plays on Radio 4 or BBC talking books.

If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

I would halve the number of cars in Britain by allowing only the people who live in odd-numbered houses to have a car. I don't think it's at all harsh. I live at number 21.

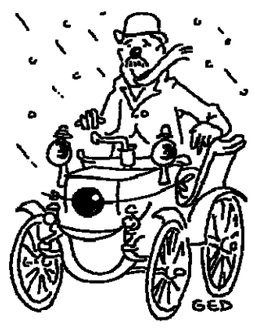
What is your favourite car ad?

Nicole and Papa. Because it's only got two words in it.

SIMON WALKER



Gouldman: "My Mercedes is safe and stylish . . . like me."



Initiatives in selling help boost charities

BY MAURICE GLOVER

SPRING is traditionally the time when a crop of new ideas are introduced to accelerate car sales out of the gloom of winter. Motorists in the North East, though, are discovering that the selling season's green shoots have arrived early.

Two dealerships on Tyneside have found novel ways to encourage customers into their showrooms, while at the same time helping charities.

In Sunderland, the RNLI and the local aircraft museum are among organisations allowed free use of huge high street showrooms for fund-raising activities.

Each Saturday, Bristol Street Motors staff clear used cars from the company's premises to make 2,000 square feet of floor space available to charities. Unlimited supplies of tea, coffee and soft drinks are provided at no cost.

"It sounds a bit wacky but the take-up has been tremendous," said general manager Mike Doddsworth.

At the Bristol Street branch in Newcastle, sales manager Martin Davison has adorned his entire display of new cars with red noses. For each vehicle sold on March 17, the culmination of this year's comic relief appeal, the garage will donate £25. It expects to raise more than £500.

Small talk bound to fill buyers with confidence

Superminis are this year's hot buy with safe, fast, but small cars — loaded with the sort of creature comforts and technology usually associated with far larger vehicles — tipped as the best long-term value-for-money buys now available (Vaughan Freeman writes).

Vauxhall has put the supermini back firmly into the limelight with the launch of its stylish two-door Tigra.

Such interest in small cars is not likely to wane, which will ensure their used values stay ahead of the market. Ford has unveiled intriguing drawings of its Ka micro-car, smaller even than the Fiesta, and Mercedes-Benz is also planning to enter the supermini market over the next few years.

The arrival of such cars will again generate more interest and sustain the future values of cars, bought new or used, such as the Tigra, Rover 100 and VW Polo, according to Mark Cowling, chief economist with specialists in future car values, CAP Nationwide Motor Research.

He says: "The old adage, small is beautiful, has nearly always held true in the used car market since the introduction of the first superminis. For 1995, it is the mini and the supermini-sized cars which, whether new or used, will give drivers the best value-for-money."

He emphasised that fuel costs which will rise at least 20 per cent over the next three years, increasing traffic congestion, and the increased comfort, safety and performance of smaller cars, are the factors ensuring that the second-hand superminis will keep their values better than cars in any other size sector.

Mr Cowling added: "The fundamentals underpinning the demand for small cars, such as ever-rising fuel and running costs, remain in place. Insurance is lower, they are pretty, they are cheap and they are easier to park.

"Prices for such cars are at a relatively low point and we expect that in three years' time a mini or supermini purchased now will prove good value whether bought new or used."

This summer in particular a peculiar set of circumstances mean that new cars, including superminis, will be especially good value, with discounts of up to £1,500 expected to be on offer.

During June and July private buyers traditionally desert the showrooms, saving their cash and awaiting August when their new car will carry the latest registration plate. In response, dealers traditionally offer tempting pre-August discounts.

This annual shortage of forecourt customers will be aggravated this year because car fleet buyers too will be absent from the new car market until August.

Company car managers annually buy more than half of all new cars sold in Britain. This summer they will be delaying purchases until, coincidentally, August 1, when a change in rules for value-added tax comes into effect regarding leased company cars.

The change will save car fleets thousands of pounds on cars bought after August 1 and company car buyers are expected to steer clear of the showrooms until after the change to take advantage.

Mr Cowling said: "I believe that this summer, particularly June and July, could be one of the best times to buy a new car, and that on top of the usual discounts, dealers will be offering further incentives.

"Manufacturers have got their cash flows to keep going and that means there have to be some deals on prices in the summer."

South Koreans plan innovative invasion

THE most ambitious assault on the British car market will start next month when the first Daewoo models start arriving in showrooms that look more like self-contained exhibition centres.

The South Korean manufacturer — which calls itself the best known name you have never heard of — has decided on a radical departure from the conventional notion of a showroom by opening big out-of-town sales sites. They will have cafes and children's play areas so potential buyers can browse at leisure without feeling pressurised.

Salesmen will be paid on salary not commission, and as many as 16 different variants of the company's Nexia and Espero models, costing up to £13,000, will be on show.

Daewoo has invested £150 million in the showrooms, which should create around 2,000 sales and administration jobs over the next two years.

Cynics who have suggested the company will not survive without an established dealer network may have to think again if Daewoo's innovative approach succeeds. Although there will be service facilities available in big towns, maintenance and repair will also be available at 136 sites owned by Halfords.

The biggest problem Daewoo faces is building awareness of a brand almost totally unknown in the West but which is big in the Far East.

Daewoo is the world's 33rd largest company with a manufacturing portfolio which stretches from space technology to trains.

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91 (J) CSE 2.3 T, auto, 9K, ACC. Ruby £15,495
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94 (M) CDE 2.0 Eco, auto, MY 95. Silver. £21,995
94 (M) CSE 2.0i, ACC, alloys, Ruby. £17,995
93 (L) CD 2.3 T S, ldr, airbag, Scarabe. £17,995
91 (J) 900 T 16 S Conv, Talledega £16,995
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94 (M) 900 S 2.0i, 5 dr, SP, audio, Aubergine. £15,995
93 (K) CSE 2.0i, auto, AC, CD, Scarabe. £15,495
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94 (M) 900 2.0 T Coupe, Conv, CD, 4K £19,995
93 (K) CS Carlsson 2.3 T, Talledega, 31K £17,495
93 (K) CS Eco, 5dr, Imola/Angora, 14K £14,995
94 (L) CS 2.0i, 5dr. White/Black, 6K £15,995
94 (L) CSE 2.0i, 5dr, Aubergine/Alpaca, 8K £17,995
94 (M) CD Estate, Ruby Red/ldr, 7K £18,995
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94 (H) CS XS, Silver, AC, RC, ATA, AW, 1K £18,950
94 (H) CD 2.0 Estate, auto, Ruby, AW, 3K £18,950
94 (H) CSE 2.0i, AW, ACC, 1K £18,950
94 (H) 900 S 2.3 Cabrio, Red, ESR, AW, 2K £17,950
93 (L) 900 2.0i Cabrio, Le Mans/Leather, 7K £17,950
94 (H) 900 XS, 5dr, Silver, AC, AW, 3K £16,950
93 (L) CDE 2.0i, AC, RC, CD, 3K £16,950
90 (H) 900 T 16 S, White, ESR, AW, 42K £9,950
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94 (L) 900 SE 2.5 V6, Ruby Red/Tan velour £15,995
94 (L) 9000 CDE Eco 2.0, Estate Blue £13,995
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L 9000 CS Eco, Le Mans Blue, RC, alarm £16,995
L 9000 CSE LPT, air con, Ruby Red £16,995
94 900 SE V4, 5 dr, Ruby Red £18,995
94 900 S, 5dr. alarm £13,995
K CD XS, Le Mans, air con, walnut £13,995
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94 (H) 900 SE T Coupe, Ruby, Sportslne £21,995
94 (H) 900 S 2.0i, 5dr, Eucalyptus, 5K £16,950
94 (H) 900 SE 16V, 5 dr, Iridium/Dover, 44K £9,495
91 (J) 900 LPT, 5 dr, Green/Angora, AW, EW £9,250
91 (H) 900 S Aero LPT, Imola/Labrador 60K £8,995
93 (K) 9000 CS 2.0 T, Nocturne/Angora, 20K £17,495
91 (J) 9000 2.0 T S, Oceanic/Angora, 44K £13,995
91 (J) 9000 S 2.3 T, auto, Pizarra/Dover, 75K £9,995
90 (H) 9000 T S, Cherry/Labrador, AW, 59K £9,495
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94 (L) 900 SE 2.5 V6, Scarabe/Alpaca, 11K £17,995
94 (H) 900 SE 16V, 5 dr, Iridium/Dover, 44K £9,495
91 (J) 900 LPT, 5 dr, Green/Angora, AW, EW £9,250
91 (H) 900 S Aero LPT, Imola/Labrador 60K £8,995
93 (K) 9000 CS 2.0 T, Nocturne/Angora, 20K £17,495
91 (J) 9000 2.0 T S, Oceanic/Angora, 44K £13,995
91 (J) 9000 S 2.3 T, auto, Pizarra/Dover, 75K £9,995
90 (H) 9000 T S, Cherry/Labrador, AW, 59K £9,495
94 (L) 9000 CDE, Le Mans/Angora, 10K £17,495
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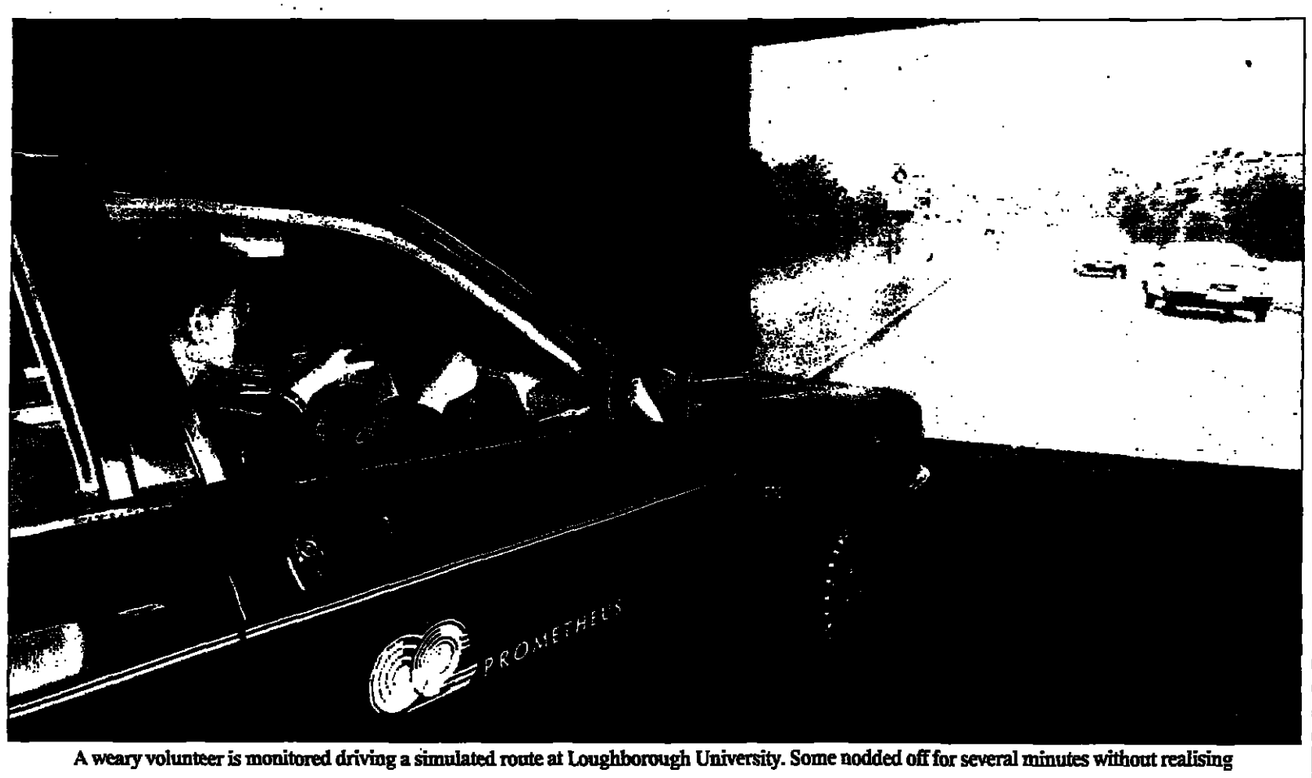
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Tiredness kills. Robert Porter on a project to stop drivers falling asleep at the wheel



A weary volunteer is monitored driving a simulated route at Loughborough University. Some nodded off for several minutes without realising

State-of-the-art computers have helped complete a vital research programme to cut road deaths caused by tiredness.

The aim of the programme, funded by Ford and carried out by Aberdeen, Loughborough and Stirling universities, is to produce an in-car warning system which will advise tired drivers when it is time to take a break. The system would detect, via electronic sensors, when a driver's responses became "ragged" as tiredness affected judgment.

Researchers hope to save hundreds of lives each year. Inquests often hear that fatal collisions, many involving drivers who had been at the wheel for hours, occurred for no explicable reason. One accident thought to have involved driver fatigue was the school coach crash on the M40 15 months ago, in which 13 children and a teacher were killed.

Human error, often due to tiredness, is responsible for 70 per cent of all road accidents. Experiments by Ford at its Dunton research headquarters in Essex have shown that weary drivers can nod off at the wheel and wake up without even knowing they have slept.

In tests at Loughborough University, volunteers were kept awake for 24 hours and then put in vehicle simulators for 40 minutes. Some fell asleep within five minutes, slept until awoken after the test period and then took the wheel again as though they had simply nodded off for a few seconds. It was thought 40 minutes would not be long enough for the test; but nobody managed to stay awake for the whole period.

Ford set out to monitor the onset of tiredness by providing a Scorpio fitted with dual controls, and equipped with electronic sensors attached to everything in the car with which the driver came into contact. These were linked to a large computer in the boot, in a car conversion exercise believed to have cost more than £250,000. Drivers' brain activity was also monitored by EEG (electro-encephalogram).

Over three years, thousands of driver-hours were logged on motorways, test tracks and vehicle simulators. Closed-circuit cameras were installed to measure drivers' eye movements as tiredness set in. Most alarming, perhaps, was that most drivers either failed to recognise or ignored the physical warnings that their alertness was becoming blunted. They refused to pull off for a coffee and a rest and seemed to think that if they carried on they could "drive through it."

Discs recording hundreds of thousands of driver responses were sent to Stirling University and fed into neural networks — computer programmes which can learn by experience — where they were analysed.

Kevin Swingler, research fellow in charge of the programme at Stirling, explained: "Monitoring brain activity gave us a very good idea of how alert a person is. But because it would not be practical for motorists to drive around with wires attached to their heads, we needed to predict in advance how changes in steering and handling of controls could measure tiredness.

"Ford went out and tested 60 drivers at the wheel. All the EEG data was then decoded by an expert in brain sleep patterns. Finally, all the material was fed into our computer, which can 'learn' from all this data."

The computer programme had slowly evolved an accurate model of normal driving behaviour as it evaluated more and more information. After thousands of such assessments, it was possible to create a behaviour pattern which fitted nearly every driver.

The "learning" computer would then devise a standard warning programme which could be installed in new cars at comparatively little cost. Tiredness warnings would probably consist of a row of dashboard lights which would flash with increasing intensity.

"The cost would definitely not be a problem," Mr Swingler said. "The real issue is persuading people to act on the warnings." The three-year research project had been completed, he said, and "whatever happens now will be up to Ford."

● Matthew Joint, the AA's behaviour analyst, advises: "Never drive for more than three hours without a break. Stop for at least 20 minutes and don't just sit in the car, take a brisk walk.

"The best exercise, I am told, is belly dancing, but perhaps it is better not to risk arrest."

Dead tired: a lethal M-way menace

BY ANNE MARIE SAPSTED

ABOUT 16 per cent of all road accidents and more than 20 per cent of those on motorways are sleep-related, according to Professor Jim Horne of the Sleep Research Laboratory at Loughborough University.

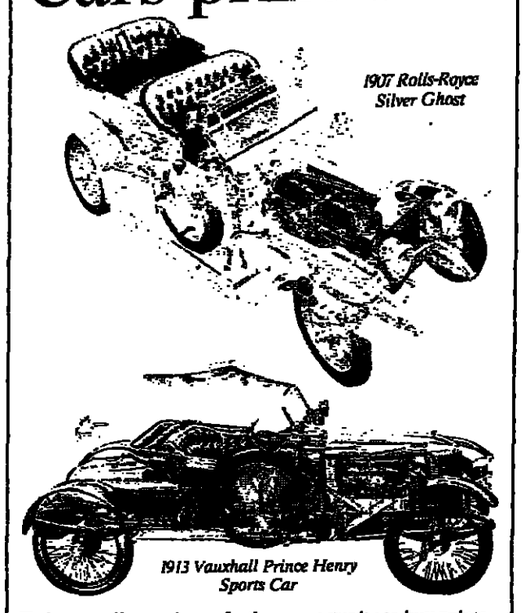
His research in the *British Medical Journal* this week suggests that young males are particularly at risk. The professor based his findings on figures for accidents on all roads in the south-west of England from 1987 to 1992 and on data from the six Midlands police forces which make up the central motorway group in Birmingham.

His research underlines concern that while fatigue has already been recognised as a problem for heavy goods and public service vehicle drivers, whose hours are regulated by law, company car drivers, who are outside the scope of such legislation, may spend even longer at the wheel.

Research in America indicates that 13 per cent of road deaths are the result of drivers falling asleep. This is supported by research in Germany and Israel. Professor Horne's data also reflects their findings that there are two peak times for accidents: the early hours of the morning, especially 2am-3am, and the mid-afternoon, when the body's circadian rhythms, which govern sleep patterns, are at a low ebb.

His research also shows that male drivers aged 20-30 accounted for half of sleep-related accidents and that the chance of death or serious injury in such cases was higher than in "normal" accidents.

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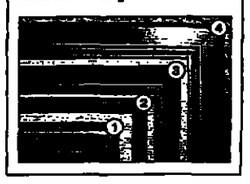
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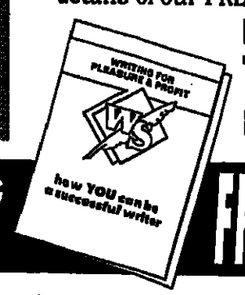
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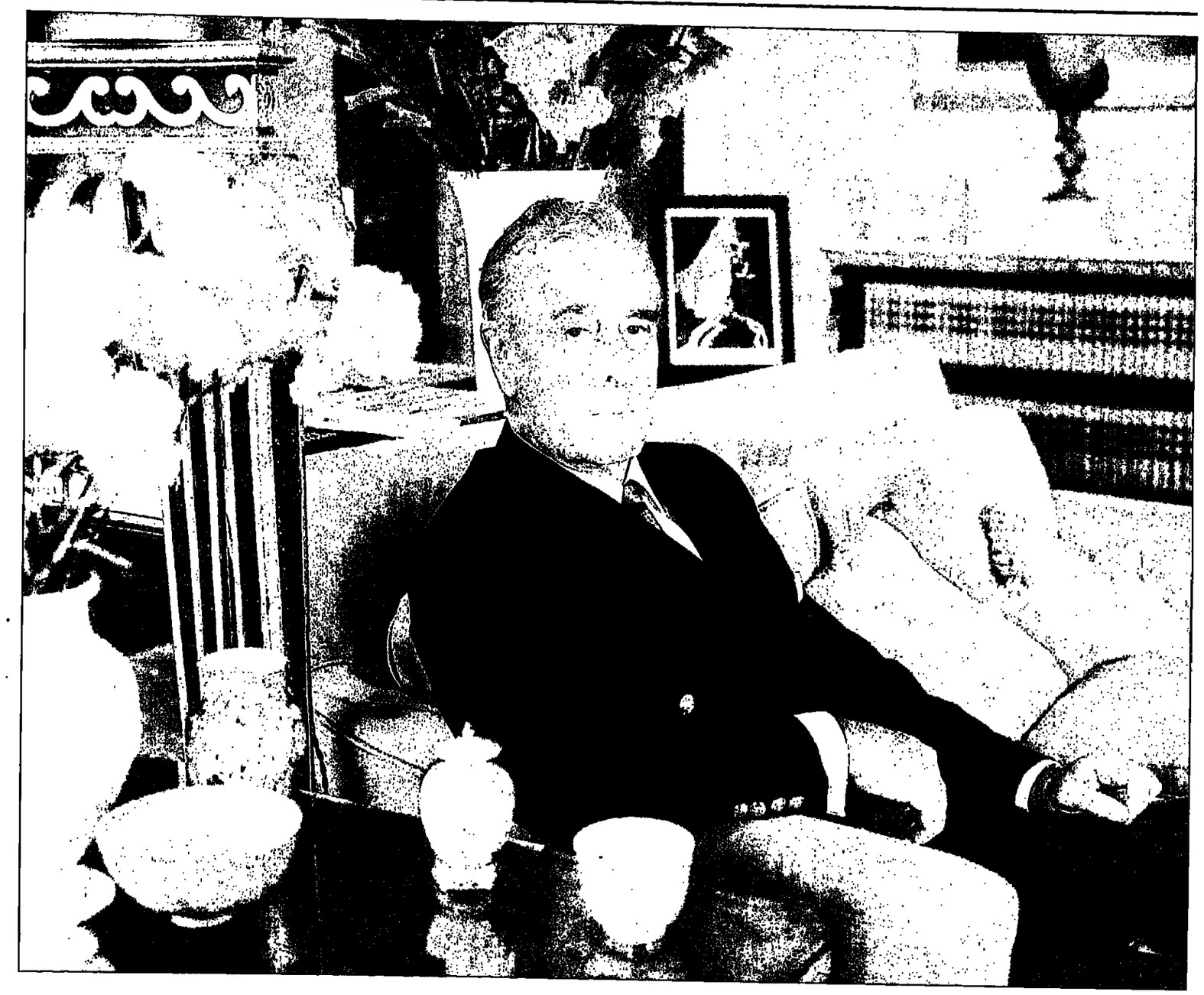
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TMV3

A CHANNEL HOPPER'S GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S ● TV AND RADIO

SEVEN DAYS TV 10-23
SEVEN DAYS RADIO 24-27

THE TIMES **VISION**

SATURDAY 4 — FRIDAY 10 MARCH 1995



SECRET LIVES
3 Life, love and Mountbatten

NEW SERIES
5 Widows returns in She's Out

TEEN TV
6 Party of Five: angst with attitude

VISION

Vision, the guide to seven days' television and radio programmes, is published as part of *The Times* every Saturday

SECRET LIVES

3

Will the real **Mountbatten** stand up? Robi Dutta reports on a controversial new film

EXPERTS

4

The Times's specialist writers guide you to the best on television, from science to soap and sport, clichés to arts programmes

NEW SERIES

5

Dolly Rawlins is back and in more trouble. Hilary Kingsley on the return of the *Widows* in **She's Out**

Plus
Tony Patrick samples Madhur Jaffrey's ***Flavours of India***

TELEVISION

6

Victoria McKee on the rise of adolescent angst programmes, as **Party of Five** arrives in Britain

Plus
Is it sink or swim for holiday **cruising?**

FILM REVIEWS

7

David Robinson's Pick of the Week. The best of the rest, by **John Marriott** and **Richard Scott**

LISTINGS

10

14 pages, seven days, including satellite

RADIO

24

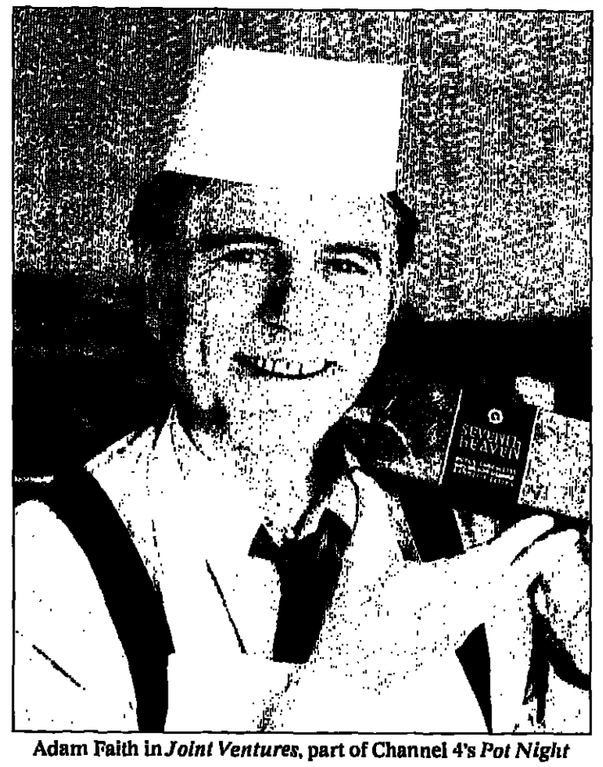
Peter Barnard's pick of the week ahead
24-27: Full listings of all *national stations*

Cover picture:
Lord Louis Mountbatten in 1968

CHANNEL-HOPPING

And tonight's theme is . . .

David Flusfeder makes his pick of the week's programmes across all channels



Adam Faith in *Joint Ventures*, part of Channel 4's *Pot Night*

POT NIGHT
Today, Saturday, Channel 4, 8pm-4.15am

I WAS expecting lots of moody visuals and ambient sounds and re-run episodes of *Batman* and *The Prisoner* and impossibly weird sitcoms like *One Man And His Dog*. But no. If the pot-heads tune in tonight hoping for some television thrills to match their chemical ones they're going to be — until the movies start at 11.05am — disappointed. This is *serious*. This is discussion television. The evening kicks off with *A Leaf Through The Century*, an amiable tour through the recent history of and different meanings surrounding marijuana use. So there's lots of good jazz on the soundtrack and montage photographs of black people and cheerful sneerings at the arrogantly naive attitudes of the 1960s. Then, after a brief interjection from Laurie Pike reporting on the hip fashion things that can be done with hemp, there's the documentary *A Rock And A Hard Place* (8.35pm). It's a comparative study on cannabis policing in Leeds and Stockholm. They are very severe on the stuff in Sweden. None of this soft-drug-maybe-we-should-legalise-it business. They just send the forces in and everyone goes to jail. Meanwhile, in more liberal Leeds, there's one marvellous exchange between a young woman holding a baby and a slightly irate policeman who has just broken the door down to her family house in the hope of finding a drugs cache. She keeps asking him why he broke the door. Finally he gets bored with evading the issue and answers: "At the end of the day we've put your door through and there's nothing you can do about it."

*** Should cannabis be legalised? Should television have theme nights?**

AS TIME GOES BY
Tomorrow, Sunday, BBC1, 7pm

GEOFFREY Palmer is better at suburban craziness (*Reginald Perrin, Fairly Secret Army*) than he is at suburban benevolence (*Butterflies, As Time Goes By*). But, rather like Edward Fox, Palmer is an under-celebrated national hero who should be lauded in whatever he cares to do. *As Time Goes By* is light comedy, very light comedy. Palmer and Judi Dench are reunited lovers on the verge of marrying a generation later or so than they intended. He is a writer. She has a daughter. He is about to get a pretty secretary. Ha ha ha. Nonetheless, Dench does her best (even if her voice is a *little bit* too much the perfect actorly instrument) and Palmer justifies the BBC licence fee merely by looking worried and talking briskly.

*** Geoffrey Palmer graces mediocre sit-com.**

CUTTING EDGE: Amnesia
Monday, Channel 4, 9pm

JOHN Spencer suffered a cerebral haemorrhage and lost most of his adult memories. He will tell people he's just met all about his childhood sailing holidays on the Norfolk Broads. Detailed stuff, intricate, with expert tips about the angles of sails that the intervening years have done nothing to erase. And then he will tell them all about it *again because John Spencer has a* short-term memory of about half a minute. Stewart Norriss was 17 when he banged his head on a kitchen cupboard and, even though there was no physical damage, his entire memory became inaccessible. He had to relearn everything. *Sesame Street* helped teach him how to get dressed. Visits to the waxworks museum helped as well, as his mother would point out figures and ask him if he remembered who they were supposed to be (although, amnesia or no amnesia, it's not a test that anyone would feel confident passing).

**** The lives of three men without memory.**

WITHOUT WALLS: J'Accuse The Vegetarians
Tuesday, Channel 4, 9.30pm

JONATHAN Meades, *The Times* restaurant critic, does a good job demolishing the illogicalities of *vegetarians and has a good time* doing it. Spraying abuse like gunfire ("bearded buffoons", "turnip tubes"), he attacks the hypocritical pointlessness of using vegetables to mimic meat and the puritanical arrogance of vegetarians. He might though have picked his opponents less carefully. Tony *Blackburn and Lynsey De Paul are* hardly intellectual heavyweights, while the writer G.F. Newman is so hideously over the moral top (he equates the Nazi Holocaust with carnivores' butchery) as to discount the veggies' case nil by himself.

**** Jonathan Meades beats up vegetarianism.**

MODERN TIMES: Harley Street
Wednesday, BBC2, 8.30pm

THIS documentary starts off as a serious study of the anatomy of Harley Street. Here's a woman about to have a face-lift; here's how much it will cost her (£4,500); here's one of the 14,000 practitioners in the area about to make some tidy *money doing the lifting. But then* we meet Bonnie and she takes over the show. Bonnie has breast cancer and this time around she's going for the not entirely proven treatment of high-dosage chemotherapy. Bonnie's treatment and her *responses to it are fascinating*. Her will and her stoicism are marvellous. The film has nowhere to go after that.

*** Medical practices in the private sphere.**

NEW SERIES BEGINNING MARCH 4-10

SUNDAY
As Time Goes By *BBC1*
Bodycounts *BBC1*
The System on Trial *BBC1*
The Sunday Show *BBC2*
Party of Five *C4*

MONDAY
That's Showbusiness *BBC1*
She's Out *ITV*
The Motor Show ITV
Sport in Question *ITV*

TUESDAY
Flavours of India *BBC2*
The Knowledge *BBC2*

WEDNESDAY
Hearts of Gold *BBC1*

THURSDAY
Chiller *ITV*

FRIDAY
Blossom *C4*



THURSDAY MARCH 9

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo: featuring Stevie Wonder playing live from Ronnie Scott's **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **4.20** The Amazing Spiderman: *Stop That Aircraft!*; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session, *presented by Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq* **9.00** Soundbite, presented by Danny Kelly. Billy Bragg talks about the song that changed his life **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons with music to take you through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Fiona Armstrong, including at **2.30** the star guest interview **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Marc Blake's Whining for England: See Pick, page 24 **7.30** David Allen **9.00** Paul Jones, with rhythm *and blues, and a session from Tinsley Ellis and his band* **10.00** British Country Hall Coppendale with more music from nominees in the Great British Country Music Awards, including West Virginia and Daniel O'Donnell **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: *The Dreaming of the Bones*, by W.B Yeats **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air: With Andrew McGregor. Bartók (Romanian Folk Dances); Mozart (Fantasia in F minor), Spohr (Octet in E, Op 32); Mendelssohn, arr W.T. Best (War March of the Priests, Athalie); **8.11** *Purcell Portfolio*: Purcell (A selection of songs); **8.30** Poulenc (Piano Concerto)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Swedish Romantics. Music by Wilhelm Stenhammar (Symphony in G minor, Op 34; In the Seraglio Garden; Fantasia No 3 in B minor, Op 11)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. Handel (*Concerto grosso in D minor, Op 3 No 5*); **10.15** *Artist of the Week*: Steven Isserlis, cello. Boccherini (Cello Sonata No 6 in G); **10.15** Bach (Motet: Lobet den Herrn): Weber (Piano Sonata No 3 in D minor); Sullivan, arr Robinson (Savoy Dances); Tchaikovsky (Andante cantabile, Op 11); Bax (Northern Ballad No 3); Tallis (Mass: Puer natus est nobis)
12.00 Ensemble: The Fibonacci Sequence performs rarely heard chamber music (r)
1.00pm The Boston Romantics. Margaret Juritwait presents the first of four programmes exploring the music in Boston between the end of the *American Civil War and the First World War*, starting with a study of John Knowles Paine, the first professor of music at Harvard University. Including musical illustrations from Paine (Symphony No 1 in C minor, First Movement; Larghetto and Humoreske, Op 23; Agnus Dei; Domine noble pacem, Mass in D)
2.00 Schools: Radio Q and A **2.05** In the News **2.25** Something to Think About: Infant Assemblies
2.40 Music Workshop: *Music Course 3 Orpheus*
3.00 The Tippett Operas: The Ice Break Natalie Wheen introduces Tippett's fourth opera. David Wilson-Johnson, baritone; Heather Harper, soprano; London Sinfonietta Chorus and London Sinfonietta under David Atherton
4.35 The Cann Twins Play Brahms: Waltzes, Op 39, excerpts; Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op 56b (Claire and Antoinette Cann, pianos)
5.00 The Music Machine: A group of GCSE pupils try out their compositions with the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble
5.15 In Tune: Presented by Linda Ormiston *Gershwin (Overture. Of Thee I Sing)*; *Vaughan* Williams (Serenade to Music); Gershwin (An American in Paris); Verdi (Bella figlia dell' amore, Rigoletto)
7.30 BBC Singers Invitation Concert: Live from St James's Church, Piccadilly, London. William Boyce (David's Lamentation over Saul and Jonathan); **8.30** The Devil's Grasshoppers: Jennifer Thorp explores the role of the 18th-century dancing master; *8.40 Maurice Greene* (The Song of Deborah and Barak)
9.30 Music at War: Music written in Britain during the Second World War
9.50 *Frederick von Stade:* The *mezzo-soprano* sings a selection of the *Songs of the Auvergne*
10.15 Time and Changes (r)
10.45 Night Waves: Ariel Dorfman, playwright and novelist
11.30-12.30am Voices: Songs from Hugo Wolf's *Spanisches Liederbuch*
1.30-2.40 Night School: Poetry of Passion **2.00** Dance Resource for PE: City Life 2

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with the Very Rev Gilleasbuig Macmillan **6.30** Today incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Michael Buerk chairs a live investigation into the moral questions behind the week's news. Witnesses *face cross-examination from* Janet Daley, Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Edward Pearce and Dr David Starkey
10.00-10.30 News; After Eden (FM only): A six-part drama series by Alison Leonard about a woman priest (3/6)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): A spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour: *See Pick, page 24*
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent: Reports from BBC correspondents around the world
12.00 News; You and Yours: With Teaneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Questions of Taste: Chris Kelly introduces highlights from the food-and-drink panel game (r) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Hair of the Dog: In Lesley Davies's black comedy, Brenda Blethyn plays Amy, a harassed housewife and mother of seven whose husband finds himself in the arms of their *glamorous next-door neighbour*. With David Horovitch and Kate Buffery (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan and guests
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Allen explores the relationship between author and director during the staging of new plays. With Richard Nelson and David Jones
4.45 Short Story: Her Victory. Sunny Ormonde reads *Clive Collins's story*
5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Paradise Lost in Space: See Pick, page 24
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Soundtrack: Sara Parker reports on a day in the life of June, a mortician who lives above her workplace with her partner
8.00 Analysis: John Bull's Schooldays. Melanie Phillips looks at English education
8.45 Stranger than Fiction: Tim Parks, a writer of black comedies, starts a weekly six-part series *for Lent in which a leading novelist considers the* Gospel accounts of the trial and death of Jesus
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for listeners with disabilities
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis (4/6)
11.00 Ten Pounds and a Box of Kippers: The final part of *Paul Brennan's comedy-drama series* about two footballers and their bid to save a pub
11.30-12.00 Postcard from Gotham (FM only): Joe Queenan presents more insiders' views of the *week's stories in America*
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.45am News incl 12.27 Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, including at **9.40** Film Review; **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Gus Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, including at **3.34pm** Prime Ministers Question Time **4.30** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra. Including at **7.20** sport **7.35** Woman on Top **8.05** Arthur Smith on the Floor: a debate from Gordon's at Southampton University **10.05** News Talk with *Paul Tonge* **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** Night Moves **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *Marion Des Sources* **7.30** Network UK **8.00** News **8.10** World of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** The Farming World **9.45** *Sport 10.00* News **10.01** Assignment **10.30** Quote Unquote **11.00** Newsdesk **11.15** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: X-Press *12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Manon Des Sources* **2.45** The Learning World **3.00** News **3.15** The Greenfield Collection **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** On the Move **7.45** The Farming World **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Quote Unquote **12.00** News **12.15am** *Music Review 1.00 News* **1.05** Outlook **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** A History of the Novel in Six Chapters **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** Newsdesk

RADIO 4 LW

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Mesh and Sean Bolger **10.00** *Caesar the Geezer* **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

FRIDAY MARCH 10

RADIO 1

FM Stereo 4.00am Clive Warren with the *Early* Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** *Lisa L'Anson with the Lunchtime Show, including at* **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00pm** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, including The Amazing Spiderman With William Dufris, Lorelei King, Anita Dobson and William *Roberts: Today's episode Their's no torpedo!*, and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Pete Tong's Essential Selection a musical start to the weekend **10.00** John Peel Ambient-dub-tribal-techno from Innersphere in Hayes, Middlesex **1.00am** The IFM Rap Show with Westwood

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken *Bruce* **11.30** *Jimmy Young* **2.00pm** *Fiona Armstrong* **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Pansi Beaters Quiz and panel games from the archives (1/4) **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night **8.45** Treasure Island Seventh of a ten-part adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's adventure story Read by John Nettles **9.00** Listen to the Band CWS Glasgow Band under Archie Hutchison **10.00** Alan Titchmarsh with the Radio 2 Arts Programme News of three theatrical productions in Birmingham **12.05am** Digby Fellweather **1.00** Charles Nove

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: *Maths: One One and* Composite Functions **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air: With Andrew McGregor. Carlo Farina (Capriccio stravagante); Sibelius (Spring Song, Op 16); Glazunov (The Sea, Op 28); Stravinsky (Circus Polka); Handel (Franck leggiera e mobile); **8.32** *Quartet Collection:* Haydn (String Quartet in E flat, Op 71 No 3)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Swedish Romantics Curt Carlsson presents music by Otto Olsson (Agnus Dei, Requiem; Prelude and Fugue in F sharp minor; Ave maris stella, Six Latin Hymns, Op 40, Te Deum)
10.00 Musical Encounters: With Piers Burton-Page. Handel (Concerto grosso in D, Op 3 No 6). **10.15** *Artist of the Week*: Steven Isserlis, cello. Rimsky-Korsakov (Serenade, Op 37); **10.30** Rautavaara (Cantus Arcticus). Bach (Cello Suite No 3 in C). Schumann (Arabeske in C, Op 18); Lionel Sainsbury (Violin Concerto); Brahms (Gesang der Parzen, Op 89)
12.00 Voices: Songs from Hugo Wolf's *Spanisches Liederbuch* (r)
1.00pm St David's Hall Lunchtime Recital: Marta Blanco, mezzo; Grupo Encuentros of Buenos Aires under Alicia Terzan. Carlos Guastavino (Sonetos de Ruisenor); Villa-Lobos (Poema del niño y su madre); Edgar Alandia (Grito, 1980); Alicia Terzan (Tres Retratos); Irma Urteaga (Suenos de Yemas); Roque de Pedro (En el bar, como un Tango)
2.00 Schools: The Song Tree: Course 1 — The Vanishing Isle **2.15** Together Stories **2.30** Dance Workshop **2.50** Poetry Comes
3.00 Mining the Archive: Time Regained. Peter Cropper and Andras Schiff pay tribute to Sandor Vegh who founded the Hungarian Quartet in 1934 Bach (Chaconne in D minor); Bartók (String Quartet No 3); Debussy (Violin Sonata in G minor) Beethoven (Cavatina, String Quartet in B flat, Op 130); Mozart (Serenade in D, Haffner, excerpts)
4.20 Hits of the 40s. Somewhere Over the Rainbow
4.30 Music of the Silk Road: Sara Nultall explores *traditional music of the ancient trade route*
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson talks to members of the London Gabrieli Ensemble
5.15 In Tune: With Jeremy Nicholas. Weber (Overture. Der Freischütz); Tchaikovsky (Variations on a Rococo Theme); Brahms (Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Op 56a)
7.30 Towards the Millennium The Lindsay Quartet live from Studio 1, Birmingham, performs Shostakovich (String Quartet No 4); Britten (String Quartet No 2); **8.30** Catching the Eye: Deyan Sudjic continues his survey of design in the 1940s. **8.40** Tippett (String Quartet No 3)
9.30 Music at War: *Stephen Johnson concludes his* exploration of music written in Britain during and after the Second World War
9.50 Intersections: Early music ensemble the Orlando Consort and jazz group Perfect House Plants perform a sequence of improvisations and specially composed pieces based on medieval chant and polyphony
10.45 Friday Feature: False Strings and Honest Rhymes. A profile of the poet Louis MacNeice
11.30-12.30am Midnight Oil: Stephen Scott's novel piano techniques and his piece *The Tears of Niobe* for bowed piano

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Desert Island Discs, with historian Professor Eric Hobsbawm (r)
9.45 Feedback: Chris Dunkley airs comments on BBC programmes and policy
10.00-10.30 News; Listen to the Cinema! (FM only) David Huckvale explores music in the cinema and talks to composers about the contribution music makes to a film
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.18 Something Understood (LW only): *Love Is Enough*, read by Jack Klaff and Eve Karpf
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Sylvia Norn
11.30 *The National History Programme*, presented by Joanna Pinnock
12.00 News; You and Yours with Daire Brehan
12.25pm The Food Programme, presented by Derek Cooper **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Classic Serial: Dead Souls. The second of two episodes of Nikolai Gogol's *comedy dramatised by Stephen Wyatt. With* Ken Stott as Chichikov and a cast including Jean Alexander, Bryan Pringle and Mark McGann. Directed by Kate Rowland (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor and guests
4.00 News; Kaleidoscope. Tim Marlowe celebrates the centenary of the innovative art gallery. Kettles Yard in Cambridge
4.45 Short Story: Morning in Wonderful Time. Patricia Brake reads J.G. Ballard's story (r)
5.00 PM, with Hugh Sykes and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Going Places: David Stafford presents ideas for the weekend
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers: A misdemeanour is unpaged
7.20 Pick of the Week: Christopher Serle highlights the past week's BBC radio and television
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a discussion in Hove, East Sussex, with guests Anne Applebaum, deputy editor of *The Spectator*; Edward Heath, MP; Lord Jenkins of Hillhead; and Gerald Kaufman, MP
8.50 Law in Action, with Marcel Berlins
9.15 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature: The Art of Reading. James Meipas investigates the advent of computer books and what they mean for the printed page and painted page (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis (5/6)
11.00 Week Ending: A satirical review of the week's *news with Sally Grace, Jeffrey Holland, Toby* Longworth and Sally Phillips
11.25 Fourth Column: Alistair Beaton's guests include Allison Pearson
11.45 The State of the Carpet: Charlotte Mitchell returns with some of her latest poems (r)
12.00-12.45am News incl 12.27 Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, with Diane Madli, including at **9.40** Video Review; **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Chain Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, with Sybil Ruscoe **4.00** *John Inverdale* Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** the day's sport in full **7.35** Parkinson on Sport **9.35** Off Piste, with Sandy Warr **9.35** Now the Good News **10.05** Stop Press, with *John Diamond* **10.35** *Financial* Week **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.46** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours, with Richard Evans **2.05** Up All Night

RADIO 5 LW

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Bloch (Schelomo) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** The Travel Guide: Golf in Bermuda **8.00** Evening Concert: Cleveland Orchestra under George Szell plays Wagner (Dawn and Siegfried's Rhine Journey, Gotterdämmerung; Forest Murmurs, Siegfried); Mussorgsky (Night on the Bare Mountain); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D); Beethoven (Symphony No 2 in D) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** André Leon

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: *Manon Des Sources* **7.30** Russia's Runaway Revolution **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Global Concerns **9.00** *On the Move* **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Focus on Faith **10.30** The Soul Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.15** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Russia's Runaway Revolution **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf. *Manon Des Sources* **2.45** Global Concerns **3.00** News **3.15** Music Review **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Russia's Runaway Revolution **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** People and Politics **10.45** Sport **11.00** News **11.30** Multitrack: Alternative **12.00** News *12.15am The Essential Cut'en* **12.30** From the Weeklies **12.45** The Learning World **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Worldbeat **1.45** Jazz **2.00** News **2.30** People and Politics **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Vintage Chart **4.00** News

RADIO 4 LW

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffen **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Mesh and Sean Bolger **10.00** *Caesar the Geezer* **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

TUESDAY MARCH 7

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo, featuring a Tuesday live acoustic session from the Go-Go's **12.00** Lisa I'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat; and at **1.15** The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell, including the Loveliest of two romantic tunes chosen by listeners and the Triple-Tracker **4.00** Mark Goodier, including at **4.20** The Amazing Spiderman; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session: presented by Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** The Bruce Dickinson Rock Show **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Lynn Parsons with music through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce, including at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Fiona Armstrong, sitting in for Gloria Hunniford, including at **2.30** the star guest interview **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hayes Over Britain. call 01845 265291 **8.30** My Mammy and Me: Cathy MacPhail's Scottish sitcom **9.00** The Tea Dance: Barbara Sturgeon on its history **10.00** Explorer 2: your chance to ask some science questions **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden, with Night Ride **1.30** Pause for Thought **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Managing Schools
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew McGregor. **7.05** Cherubini (Overture: Anacréon); Telila (In lasunio el filetu); Mendelssohn (Violin Sonata in F minor, Op 4); **8.05** Rodrigo (A l'ombre de Torre Bermeja); Mozart (Il mio tesoro — Don Giovanni); Hamilton Harty (Ode to a Nightingale)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Swedish Romantics, Hugo Alfven (Symphony No 3; The Mountain King; The Forest Sleeps): Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, under Yevgeni Svetlanov)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Piers Burton-Page. BBC Singers under Bo Holten: Handel (Concerto grosso in G, Op 3 No 3); Bach (Motet: Fürchte dich nicht, BWV 228); Bax (Northern Ballad No 2); **11.20** Mendelssohn (Fantasy in F sharp minor, Op 28 — Sonata dcossaise). *Artist of the week*: Steven Isserlis, cello. Tavener (Eternal Memory); Tallis (Motet: Suscipe quaeso Domine)
12.00 Music Restored: Baroque chamber music by Montsigrun Leclair (Deuxième récréation de musique); Handel (Trio Sonata in G, Op 5 No 4); Vivaldi (Concerto in G minor, RV104, La notte); Telemann (Concerto a 4 in A minor) (r)
1.00pm The Forties: Wartime at the National Gallery. Robert Philip describes how Myra Hess's concert series survived the Blitz. The performers include the Hirsch and Rosé Quartets, the pianists Cyril Smith and Kathleen Long and the soprano Maggie Teyte
2.00 Schools: Playtime **2.15** Time to Move **2.35** Listen!
3.00 The Forties: France in the 1940s. Roger Nichols presents music by Honegger, Milhaud, Boulez and Messiaen
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson with the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble
5.15 In Tune, with Lynn Walker. Borodin (Polovtsian Dances — Prince Igor); Rameau (Suite: Les Indes galantes); **6.40** Francaix (Suite: L'horloge de flore), Britten (Overture: Canadian Carnival)
7.30 Pebble Mill: Live from Birmingham. London Baroque plays music by J.S. Bach and sons. C.P.E. Bach (Trio Sonata in B flat, Wq158). J.S. Bach (Prelude and Fugue in E flat minor, BWV 853 — The Well-Tempered Klavier, Bk I; Prelude and Fugue in G, BWV 884, Bk II); J.C.F. Bach (Trio Sonata in F, HW7 No 6); J.C. Bach (String Quartet No 1 in D); **8.10** Interval; **8.30** J. C. F. Bach (Cello Sonata in G); W. F. Bach (Harpsichord Concerto in F, F44)
9.00 The Forties: Music at War. Stephen Johnson on music before, during and after the Second World War
9.20 Intersections. The composer John Woolrich introduces the third programme. Machaut (Messe de Nostre Dame); Messiaen (Messe de la Pentecôte); Hildegard of Bingen (songs)
10.45 Night Waves: Roy Porter talks to Richard Klein, author of *Cigarettes are Sublime*, about the history of smoking
11.30pm-12.30am The BBC Orchestras: BBC Scottish SO under Fedor Glushchenko. Mozart (Overture: Die Zauberflöte); Dvořák (Symphony No 6 in D)
1.00-2.40 Night School: Triple Bill — Comfort Herself: Part 2 **1.30** Poetry of Passion **2.00** Dance Resource for PE: Dance of Death

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing; Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **7.55** Weather **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross. 0171-980 4444 Topical phone-in. Lines open from 8am
10.00 News; Tales from the Back of Beyond (FM only): Paraguay
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Felicity Kendal talks about her role in Tom Stoppard's *Indian Ink*. Plus the start of a new serial: *Who Will Run the Frog Hospital?* by Lorrie Moore
11.30 Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Daire Brehan
12.28pm Word of Mouth: Language in the Dock. Frank Delaney returns with the programme about English and how we speak it. This week: English in the service of crime — and detection
12.58 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Thirty Minute Theatre: It's Cold Outside, by Eric Pringle. With Kenneth Cranham and Julia Ford. Directed by Cherry Cookson
2.30 Conversation Piece: Sue MacGregor meets Rivka Golani, the Israeli-born viola player, to talk about her life, her music — and her painting (r)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift: Live action with stories from all over Britain
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope talks to the author Hanif Kureishi and reviews the Northern Ballet production of *The Brontës*
4.45 Short Story: Pedestrian, by Elspeth Davie. At a motorway service station, a couple meet a young man who admits that he does not own a car. Read by Anne Downie
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Board Game, with Nigel Cassidy. On the panel: Peter Day, Howard Hodgson, Alastair Ross Goobey and Nigel Whittaker
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 File on 4: Stuart Simon reports
8.00 Science Now: A weekly review of discoveries and developments in science (r)
8.30 New Spies for Old? Whatever Happened to the KGB? In the first of six programmes examining the role of secret intelligence services in the post-Cold War era, Christopher Andrew visits the Lubyanka
9.00 In Touch: Magazine for people with a visual handicap. Presented by Tony Barringer
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis (2/8)
11.00 Mediumwave: Joanne Coles explores the week's events in the media (r)
11.30 Four Corners (FM only): On the Hoof. William Green travels to Iceland's Landamot Festival, where horse-riders gather to party, and Jasper Winn tracks down the Spanish *vaqueros* who still have to ride for a living (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.56** and **7.56** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.35** Eurobews; **11.00** Dirty News **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.15** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sport **7.35** The Tuesday Match: Marcus Buckland presents Championship contenders Manchester United in action, and football news and scores **10.05** News Talk with Nigel Cassidy and guests **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours, with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: *Manon Des Sources* **7.30** News Ideas **7.50** What Is . . ? **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** International Recital **9.00** World News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** The Essential Qur'an **9.30** On Screen **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Discovery **10.30** That was the Year... **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: Hit List **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Manon Des Sources* **2.45** Turning a Tune **3.00** News **3.15** A Jolly Good Show **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Omnibus **12.00** News **12.15am** International Recital **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Contemporaries of Christ **1.45** Country Style **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Discovery **4.00** Newsdesk

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyte **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lisa L'Anson, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat, and at **1.15** music and entertainment news in The Net **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier: including The Amazing Spiderman, with William Dufris, Lorelei King and Anita Dobson; and at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session: New music with Jo Whiley and Steve Lamacq **9.00** Bits from Last Week's Radio: Greg Proops presents this week's review **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **Midnight** Lynn Parsons, with music to take you through the night

RADIO 2

International Women's Day: See Pick, page 24
FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Fiona Armstrong: See Pick, page 24 **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Nothing Like a Dame! See Pick, page 24 **7.30** Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 **8.00** Womanfolk: Featuring Sophie Bancroft and Gina Rae **8.30** A Tight Squeeze: Ian Lothian, accordionist **9.00** Black Voices: Presented by Carol Pemberton **9.30** Nigel Ogden: The Organist Entertains **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden, with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Shakespeare's History Plays **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air: With Andrew McGregor. Biber (Partita No 6 in D, Harmonia artificiosa-arosa); Billy Meyer (Three Dances in Syncopation, Op 73); **7.32** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in D, Op 71 No 2); **8.05** Wagner (Overture: Der Fliegende Holländer); Strauss (Frühlingsfeier, Op 56 No 5); Beethoven (Symphony No 5 in C minor)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Swedish Romantics. Curt Carlsson introduces music by Swedish women composers including Amanda Maier-Ronigen (Violin Sonata in B minor); Elfrida Andree (Lord Nevis marcy, Swedish Mass No 1); Valborg Aulin (String Quartet in F)
10.00 Midweek Choice: With Susan Sharpe. Including José Carreras singing some of Falla's *Seven Popular Spanish Songs*, and at **10.08** Handel (Harp Concerto in B flat, Op 4 No 6); Rodrigo (Fantasia para un gentilhombre); Arne (Organ Concerto No 3 in A); Hindemith (Oboe Sonata); Weber (Und ob die Wolke, Der Freischütz); Rachmaninov (Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini); Beethoven (String Quartet in B flat, Op 130, Finale)
12.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra (r)
1.00pm Concert Hall, live from the Wigmore Hall, London. Gaudier Ensemble perform Schubert (Adagio and Rondo Concertante); Dvořák (Piano Quintet in A, Op 81)
2.00 Schools: Together: An Assembly for Schools **2.20** Time and Tune: Music Course 2 — Dig It **2.40** Drama Workshop
3.00 Record Review: Presented by Richard Osborne. *Building a Library*: Shostakovich's *Symphony No 15* (r)
4.00 Choral Evensong, live from Manchester Cathedral
5.00 The Music Machine: The composer Judith Bingham with Tommy Pearson and the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble for a programme about writing for brass
5.15 In Tune: With Natalie Wheen. Monteverdi (Zefiro torna); Mozart (Fantasia in D minor); **6.40** Prokofiev (Overture on Hebrew Themes)
7.30 Towards the Millennium: Live from Symphony Hall, Birmingham. Felicity Lott, soprano; City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra under Simon Rattle. Copland (Appalachian Spring); Strauss (Capriccio, final scene); **8.15** The Christian Agnostic: Stephen Johnson traces conflicting ideas of religious faith and doubt in Vaughan Williams's Fifth and Sixth Symphonies (r); **8.35** Vaughan Williams (Symphony No 5)
9.30 Music at War: Stephen Johnson looks at music written in Britain during the Second World War
9.50 Music, Men and Manners: John Mollat reads a final selection of excerpts from the journals of Charles Burney, the 18th-century music historian
10.45 Night Waves: Lisa Jardine reports on Rabindranath Tagore, the first Asian writer to win a Nobel prize
11.30-12.30am Ensemble: Jill Anderson presents a programme of rarely heard chamber music performed by the Fibonacci Sequence
1.00-2.40 Night School: Triple Bill— *Comfort Herself*: Part 3 **1.30** Poetry of Passion **2.00** Dance Resource for PE: City Life 1

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with the Very Rev Gillespsbuig Macmillan **6.30** Today Incl **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.48** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek: Presented by Esther Rantzen with guest Frank Warren
10.00-10.30 News; Goalling on Main Street (FM only): Ray Gosling traces legendary Americans who pioneered for consumer society
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): A spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jan Morris tells Jenni Murray why it is time we recognised the real legacy of the British Empire
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time Eric Robson and his panel of horticultural experts take questions from members of the Heacham Gardeners' Association (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours: With Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm The Chronicles of Clovis: A six-part adaptation by Justin Greene of stories by the Edwardian writer Saki **12.58** Weather
1.00 The World at One: With Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes: The Lion's Mane. A violent death tempts Holmes out of retirement
2.45 Destination America: Christopher Cook talks to individuals who emigrated to America in the early part of the century via Ellis Island, the immigration station in New York's harbour
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift: Daire Brehan and guests with stories from all over Britain
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Brian Sibley talks to Barry Levinson about *Disclosure*, his film which deals with office sexual politics
4.45 Short Story: Pie in the Sky. Nabil Shaban reads Turan Ali's story
5.00 PM, with Chris Lowe and Hugh Sykes **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Counterpoint: First semi-final of the music quiz conducted by Ned Sherrin (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Art of Travel: Foreign correspondent Georgie Anne Geyer retraces the journey she made two years ago along the ancient Silk Road
7.48 Medicine Now: With Geoff Watts (r)
8.15 Fast Forward: From Lamarckism to Mutating Robots. Professor John Maynard Smith, who is in his seventies, discusses progress in the understanding of evolution with Dr David Cliffe, a champion of the new computerised artificial form of evolution
8.45 Opera House: The Marlinsky Theatre in St Petersburg, home of the Kirov Opera and Ballet
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight: With Owen Bennett Jones
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis (3/8)
11.00 Listen to the Cinema! David Huckvale explores music in the cinema (r)
11.30-12.00 Jeremy Hardy Speaks to the Nation (FM only): How to Be a Father - Part 2 (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme with Peter Allen and Jane Garvey, including at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine with Diane Madill, including at **10.35** Eurobews; **11.15** Natural History **12.00** Midday with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Liz Barclay with Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, with Sybil Ruscoe **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** Roundup of the day's sport in full plus the classified racing results **7.35** Trevor Brooking's Football Night **10.05** News Talk, with Jeremy Vine **11.00** Night Extra, including at **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** After Hours, with Carole Malone **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** *Manon Des Sources* **7.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Early Versions **8.30** Megamix **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Contemporaries of Christ **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz for the Asking **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.30** What Is . . ? **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *Manon Des Sources* **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** From Our Own Correspondent **3.30** Quote Unquote **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** World Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** World News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** Omnibus **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** Megamix **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Multitrack: X-Press **12.00** News **12.15am** The Greenfield Collection **1.00** World News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.45** Book Choice **1.45** The Farming World **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sport **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Assignment **4.00** Newsdesk

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar the Geezer **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

Playing the propaganda game

Mountbatten was said to doctor reports to proclaim his achievements and hide his mistakes. A new film claims to have uncovered the truth. Robi Dutta reports



Mountbatten (left) pays a visit to British prisoners of war recently freed from Japanese camps

Hindsight deals harsh blows to the reputations of the great and good. But it often reserves its fatal blows for those who go out of their way to persuade historians to endorse their view of events.

During his lifetime, Lord Louis Mountbatten worked harder than most to ensure his place in history, doctoring reports of events in his favour and proclaiming his own achievements. His entry in *Who's Who* covered a page, listing 14 of his titles.

Mountbatten was acutely aware of the cruelty of revisionism. In an interview with *The Times* in 1969, he said: "I am glad to tell you that I think I was right from the point of view of history ... In another 20 years people won't be able to understand the point of view of those who criticised me."

Is it due to this industriousness that his reputation lives on among the public and in most of the 50 or so books about his life?

But time has not always been as understanding as the last Viceroy of India might have hoped. *Secret Lives: Mountbatten* suggests that he deserves a place in the halls of histrionics rather than history. The programme appears to draw on *Eminent Churchillians*, the controversial book by Andrew Roberts, for its claims about Mountbatten's public life but the producer, Tim Shawcross, says that he started with no preconceptions about Mountbatten, about whom he knew little, and that the programme was commissioned before publication of Roberts's book.

For reflections on Mountbatten's private life, *Secret Lives* employs interviews with his daughters and film of the Mountbattens. Mountbatten and his wife, Edwina, spent their honeymoon in Hollywood. Here, Mountbatten began to learn about the power of the camera and the art of public relations. On their honeymoon, they made a silent film, shown in *Secret Lives*, directed by and starring Charlie Chaplin with Mountbatten saving his new wife from a gang of burglars.

The programme says that Mountbatten's public relations skills were realised in one of the great propaganda films of all time, *In Which We Serve*. Mountbatten convinced a sceptical government that the film, directed by and starring Noel Coward, should be made and in a way which, according to some historians, covered up his grave errors and portrayed him as a hero.

His daughters, Lady Patricia Brabourne and Lady Pamela Hicks, were taken many times to see the film. They provide an intimate insight into their parents' adulterous affairs in candid and rare interviews. The programme offers as an example of Edwina's "uninhibited lifestyle" a home movie which shows her cavorting in snow with un-named men. Lady Pamela believes that her mother turned to "boyfriends" when she realised that her husband was not going to spend his entire day paying court to her and that she had a "terrible rival" in the Navy.

Edwina was also rumoured to have had an affair with Nehru, India's first prime minister, although Lady Pamela says this was not a physical relationship. "I think when my father first found out my mother thought she was in love with someone else, it broke his heart because he was that kind of person," Lady Pamela says. "But he was also the kind of person who . . . picks up the pieces and gets on with his work."

> *Secret Lives: Mountbatten*, Thursday, Channel 4, 9pm

The programme, led by Andrew Roberts, claims Mountbatten was promoted to positions that he lacked the ability to fill, first in the Navy, next in Command Operations, then in South-East Asia Command and finally as the last Viceroy in India.

Echoing the thrust of Roberts's book, *Secret Lives* says that this had a series of grave consequences; for instance, Roberts says in the programme, the raid on Dieppe in August 1942 which Mountbatten planned was an "unmitigated disaster" as more than 3,300 Canadians were killed, injured or captured.

In India, Mountbatten hurried up the process of partition and British withdrawal which *Secret Lives* says may have led to up to a million deaths in the communal massacres — ten times what was claimed by Mountbatten at the time.

Christopher Beaumont, who served on the Radcliffe Commission which drew up the boundaries of the new countries, repeats in *Secret Lives* his assertion that under Nehru's influence Mountbatten put pressure on Sir Cyril Radcliffe to alter the frontiers in India's favour; this leads even Philip Ziegler, Mountbatten's official biographer, to say in the programme that, if correct, Mountbatten would be "guilty of an appalling indiscretion".

Shawcross denies that this is a negative portrayal of Mountbatten, but the viewer might wonder what of Mountbatten's reputation can be salvaged from this. "He was a loving father and a very impressive leader of men," Roberts says. "He just led them in the wrong places."

It is left to Ziegler to defend Mountbatten . He says, echoing his 1985 biography, "He made bad mistakes ... but I do not see how you can view Mountbatten's career as a whole and deny him the right to be called great."



Mountbatten (left) and his wife, Edwina, with the Prince of Wales. She is said to have led an "uninhibited lifestyle"

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TIMES EXPERTS PREVIEW THE WEEK OF VIEWING

Clear as a Bell

ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON



Joshua Bell in profile (*Omnibus*, BBC1, 10.20pm)

A GOOD week for classical music of many different varieties. The **Sainsbury's Choir of the Year** competition, which has brought the choristers of Britain into lusty competition on Sunday afternoons, reaches its climax tomorrow (BBC2, 4.20pm) with the grand final, involving three adult and three junior choirs. The standard is uniformly high, the frocks simply astonishing.

Tuesday night's **Omnibus** (BBC1, 10.20pm) is about the virtuoso violinist Joshua Bell. When Decca started promoting this clean-cut, all-American kid with lots of gorgeous, soft-focus pictures, I took an instant dislike to Master Bell. Then I heard him in concert and had to admit that he could play a bit. Since then, the record companies have found far less deserving teeny-playthings to promote in the classical field, while Bell's own musicality has matured gloriously. All in all, a deserving subject for profile.

Meanwhile, the Purcell celebrations continue tomorrow, Sunday, with the live televising of a concert from Westminster Abbey. Titled **Music for Queen Mary** (BBC2, 7.40pm), it includes the music that Purcell wrote for William and Mary's coronation in 1689, as well as for the Queen's funeral in the Abbey, exactly 300 years ago. Poignantly, the same music was heard in the Abbey just a few months later, for Purcell's own funeral.

Finally, note an interesting **South Bank Show** tomorrow, Sunday (ITV, 11pm), devoted to the American playwright Edward Albee. Best known for his 1960s play *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, he recently came back into the reckoning with *Three Tall Women*, which last year won Maggie Smith an award as best actress.

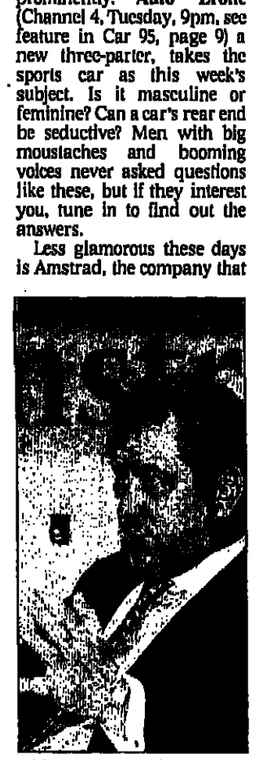
Sugar and chips

SCIENCE

NIGEL HAWKES

ONCE, admitting a passion for cars was a bit like owning up to train-spotting. Today, television schedules are packed with car programmes, though anoraks and dirty finger nails don't feature prominently. **Auto Erotic** (Channel 4, Tuesday, 9pm, see feature in Car 95, page 9) a new three-parter, takes the sports car as this week's subject. Is it masculine or feminine? Can a car's rear end be seductive? Men with big moustaches and booming voices never asked questions like these, but if they interest you, tune in to find out the answers.

Less glamorous these days is Amstrad, the company that



Alan Sugar makes plans (BBC2, Sunday, 7pm)

put personal computers into millions of homes, then ran out of puff. The **Money Programme** (BBC2, tomorrow, Sunday, 7pm) talks to Amstrad founder Alan Sugar, who has a plan for reviving the company.

Encounters (Channel 4, tomorrow, Sunday, 7pm) has accompanied entrepreneur George Tulloch to the bottom of the Atlantic, in search of treasures from the *Titanic*. The film promises the best pictures yet of the unsinkable liner, though some may think the project smacks of grave-robbing.

Pick of the rest looks like being **Cutting Edge**'s examination of amnesia (Channel 4, Monday, 9pm). I suppose I should mention **Magic Animals**, yet another film on dolphins (BBC2, Wednesday, 8pm), but even dolphins are beginning to complain that the species is over-exposed.

Kiss 'n' tell

SOAPS

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH



Martin Platt contemplates confession in the Street

SPRING must have come early to Albert Square, where first Kaff and now Michelle are behaving quite out of character for Walford women. In last week's **East-Enders** (BBC1, Mon 8pm, Tues and Thurs 7.30pm; omnibus Sun 1.30pm) Ms Beale stunned us by trowelling on some slap, brushing her hair and getting spliced in the time it would have taken her to whip up a fried egg sandwich. This week Shell is contemplating life north of the Vic when Geoff finally gets a word in edgeways. Whatever next? Pat is going all soft on Roy, Blanca's heart is broken, in short what used to be a den of tigresses is rapidly dissolving into a hutch of fluffy bunnies. We'll have to depend on Cindy, revitalised after a few weeks in Lanzarote, to act in suitably harridan-like fashion and judging by last week's brushes with David Wicks, she looks set not to disappoint.

In **Coronation Street** (ITV, Mon, Wed and Fri at 7.30pm; repeats 12.55pm, Mon, Wed, Fri) we must first go through the Alf Roberts and Martin Platt stand-off before we get to the real treat of the week. Alf, husband of Audrey, saw Martin, husband of Audrey's daughter, delivering a Christmas kiss to a fellow nurse (female), and not just in the spirit of festive camaraderie. Now Martin must add an air of pain to his habitual open-mouthed puzzlement as he contemplates confession. There's a bit more stuff about Mike (motor trouble) and Alma (surprise in post) and Steve (shock in post) but roll on Friday. Our hero is Reg, the subject is his quest for a youthful, thrusting appearance and the star of the show is a toupee, on Reg's bonce, in the Rovers.

Grave concerns

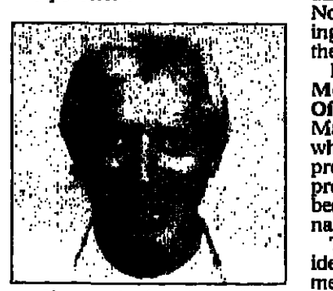
FEATURE

JOE JOSEPH

IT IS going to be jolly hard to believe our ears when the news does finally come through — many years from now — that Sir Jimmy Savile really has popped his clogs. His obituary seems to cross our path almost monthly.

Savile was very upset at Christmas when Chris Morris, presenting a show on Radio One, ran a spoof obituary claiming that the blond television and radio star had collapsed and died. Savile sued the BBC for "substantial damages" after his telephone was clogged with calls from the media and members of the public.

He said the joke — which Morris had played a few weeks earlier on Michael Heseltine — had ruined his Christmas, and Savile's lawyers told the BBC the report had been "deplorable and irresponsible".



Jimmy Savile gives his obituary (C4, Tuesday)

All this hullabaloo must only have confused further those who thought the *Jim'll Fix It* presenter was already dead after seeing him on **The Obituary Show** in Channel 4's *Without Walls* series.

Now it is being repeated (Channel 4, Tuesday, midnight), and Savile dies for us once again. By a curious coincidence, it is on *The Obituary Show* that Savile explains his love of libel actions. Morris should have watched.

Later on Tuesday night comes **Blood, Sweat And Glory** (Channel 4, 1.35am). This is a history of martial arts that covers everything from karate in Japan, through swordplay in medieval warfare to Olympic fencing. It also finds time to look at the way boxing has developed (if that is the right word) from the ancient Greeks to Mohammad Ali. (Answer: their poetry was better.)

In the old days Savile and Morris might have settled their dispute with a bout of fencing. Nowadays, lawyers do the carving up, always making sure that they get the biggest slice.

In Dawn French's **Murder Most Horrid II: A Severe Case Of Death** (BBC2, Tuesday, 9pm), Maud Jenkins, a housekeeper whose interest in the medical profession is not matched by any professional skill, struggles to become a doctor in male-dominated 19th-century England.

To do this she must assume the identity of a deceased male medic. The plot develops complications when the dead doctor's long lost son turns up.

Brian of Britain

SPORT

LOUISE TAYLOR

PUT Brian Clough, Ray Illingworth and John Sadler together in a television studio, ask them to talk about sport and the discussion should certainly be forthright. This is what ITV has done in **Sport In Question** (Carlton, Monday, 10.40pm, check regions). The former Nottingham Forest manager, the present chairman of England cricket selectors and the journalist who writes a column in *The Sun* under the banner "The man who gives it to you straight", seem sure to provide a lively mix. Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves chair the debate but many viewers will be concerned to see how Clough looks and behaves after he recently let the insults fly at a London sporting lunch.

Talking of letting fly — in the aftermath of last week's televised boxing tragedy, most people will have mixed feelings about tuning in to ITV's **Big Fight Live** (tomorrow, Saturday, 10pm, check regions). Jim Rosenthal introduces live coverage from the Livingstone Forum, Scotland, as Britain's most precocious boxing talent, Sheffield's Naseem Hamed, takes on the Argentinian Sergio Liendo for the WBC international bantamweight title. How many viewers will feel uneasy about cheering Hamed to victory in a sport some say should be banned?

At the opposite end of the spectrum, cynics argue that figure skating is not really a "proper" sport. Make up your own mind by watching the **World Figure Skating Championships** from Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre (BBC2, evenings from Tuesday, see daily listings and also *Sportsnight*, BBC1, Wednesday, 10.20pm). Sue Barker and Robin Cousins present, with Barry Davies and Alan Weeks commentating. British ice dance champions Michelle Fitzgerald and Vincent Kyle will have a tough time emulating Torvill and Dean.

Barry Davies is to be found wearing his football hat today, Saturday, commentating on a match for **Match of the Day** (BBC1, 10.30pm). Earlier in the day, *Grandstand* includes live coverage of the **Five Nations rugby** union championship match, Scotland v Wales (BBC1, today, Saturday, 2.10pm), from Murrayfield, Edinburgh, with commentary by Bill McLaren.



Brian Clough speaks out (ITV, Monday, 10.40pm)

SUNDAY MARCH 5

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Nicola James **7.00** Clive Warren with the Weekend Breakfast Show **10.00** Simon Mayo's Classic Years **12.00** Kevin Greening **2.00pm** The Steve Edwards Soul Show: with guest Howard Hewett **4.00** Official UK Top 40, presented by Bruno Brookes **7.00** The Road Goes on for Ever: Beginning a three-part series on the lives of touring bands. Presented by Rai Scabies with contributions from Suede, Elvis Costello and Eest 17 among others **8.00** Rock Show, presented by Chris Sturgess **10.00** Andy Kershaw, featuring Dibla Dibsla and guitarist Malchaicha from Zaire **Midnight** Mark Tondarai

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Sujata Barot **7.00** Pam Rhodes **9.05** Michael Aspel **10.30** Hayes on Sunday **12.00** Desmond Carrington **2.00pm** Benny Green **3.00** David Jacobs **4.00** Legends of Light Music: Orchestral favourites (4/6) **4.30** Sing Something Simple **5.00** Charlie Chester **5.30** Ronnie Hilton with Sounds of the Fifties **7.00** Richard Baker **8.30** Sunday Half Hour, from St Andrew's Parish Church, Dundee **9.00** Alan Keith **10.00** Reinventing Classical Music: Radio 2 Arts Programme. Stewart Collins asks whether classical music is making a comeback **12.35am** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Women's Studies: Mothers and Daughters **6.55** Weather
7.00 Sacred and Profane: With Paul Gulney. Miaskovsky (Symphony No 21); Purcell (I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord); Bartók (Piano Concerto No 3); **8.00** The Great Thanksgiving: Music for the Eucharist; **8.39** Strauss (Don Juan)
8.55 Choice of Three. Donald Greig of the Orlando Consort looks ahead at programmes on Radio 3
9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning: J.C. Bach (Overture: Adriano in Siria); Chopin (Nocturne in E flat, Op 9 No 2); Berlioz (Scène d'amour, Roméo et Juliette); Arnon (Nutmegs and ginger, Mother Watkins Ale; Slingo; Grimstock); Milhaud (Scaramouche); **9.48** *Composer of the Week*: Alfven (Swedish Rhapsody No 1); **10.08** Holst (Two Eastern Pictures); Mendelssohn (String Symphony No 3 in E minor); **10.17** *Artist of the Week*: Steven Isserlis, cello. Fauré (Elégie); **10.28** Bax (Mater ora filium); Glinka (Valse fantaisie); Britten (Sinfonia da requiem); Mozart (Piano Sonata in C); Vivaldi (Bassoon Concerto in A minor); Grieg (Symphonic Dances)
12.15pm Music Matters: Presented by Ivan Hewett. Incl Purcell (Funeral Music for Queen Mary) (r)
1.00 Fairest Isle Songbook: A selection of British songs associated with trains
1.15 Fairest Isle: Drags from the Popish Dunghill. Roderick Swanston considers the extremes of religious taste between 1640 and 1620
1.45 From the Proms 1994: Norwegian Chamber Orchestra under Iona Brown performs Mozart (Symphony No 25 in G minor); Schoenberg (Verklärte Nacht); Tippett (Fantasia Concertante on a Theme of Corelli); Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C) (r)
3.25 London Baroque: Charles Medlam introduces performances of music from printed collections by the sons of J.S. Bach. C.P.E. Bach (Trio Sonata in D minor); J.C.F. Bach (Sonata in G for cello and continuo); J.E. Bach (Fantasy and Fugue in F); J.C.F. Bach (Sonata in E flat for violin and harpsichord); C.H. Graun (Trio in B flat)
4.20 Towards the Millennium: Feye Robinson, soprano; Cynthia Clarey, mezzo; Philip Langridge, tenor; Benjamin Luxon, baritone; Vienna Singelakademie and the City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus and Orchestra under Simon Rattle. Pavel Haas (Study for string orchestra); Schoenberg (A Survivor from Warsaw); Tippett (A Child of Our Time)
5.55 Making Waves in Sydney: Richard Coles experiences the biggest festival of lesbian and gay culture in the world, the Sydney Mardi Gras
6.40 Steven Isserlis, cello; Paul Coker, piano. Brahms (Cello Sonata No 1 in E minor, Op 38); Schumann, arr Isserlis (Violin Sonata No 3 in A minor) (r)
7.40 Queen Mary's Funeral: See Pick, page 24
9.40 The Sunday Play: The Life of Galileo, by Berthold Brecht. Richard Griffiths plays Galileo in David Hare's version of Brecht's play
11.45-1.00am Music in Our Time: Robert Ziegler introduces a studio recording of four new works, played by the Smith Quartet, and talks to the composers. Adrian Jack (String Quartet No 1); Eleanor Alberga (*String Quartet No 2*); Moritz Eggert (Little Rideaways); Django Bates (Pondlife, BBC Commission)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Prelude **6.30** News: Brightest and Best **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** On Your Farm **7.40** Sunday, including Bells on Sunday **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 Alan Whicker appeals on behalf of Ataxia, a charity which funds research into Friedrich's and cerebellar ataxias **8.55** Weather
9.00 News **9.10** Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter From America, by Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Morning Service: All Too Human. From the chapel at Wesley House, Cambridge, with Dr Susan White
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition
11.15 Mediumwave: With Joanna Coles
11.45 Dodwell Rides Out: Christina Dodwell journeys to the heart of Madagascar (2/4)
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: The historian Professor Eric Hobsbawm is the castaway **12.55** Weather
1.00 This World This Weekend: With Charlie Lee-Potter **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: Questions from the Heacham Gardeners' Association
2.30 Classic Serial: Dead Souls. Nikolai Gogol's comic masterpiece
3.30 Pick of the Week: With Christopher Serle (r)
4.15 Analysis: The Pursuit of Happiness. Geoff Mulgan questions whether economic growth is synonymous with happiness (r)
5.00 News; Tales from the Back of Beyond: The Himalayas. Students from Imperial College, London, mount an expedition to India (r)
5.30 Poetry Please! Listeners' requests, including Edward Morgan's *Loch Ness Monster's Song*

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports **6.05** Hot Pursuits **6.30** The Breakfast Programme **9.05** Five Live's Sunday, with Eddie Mair **12.00** Midday Edition **12.15pm** The Big Style **1.05** Top Gear, with Steve Berry **1.30** On the Line: Cricket at the Crossroads. See Pick, left **2.05** The Grapevine: A topical and irreverent look at gossip and the unofficial side of organisations, new stories, people and events **2.30** Gary Lineker's Sunday Sport. Football: Arsenal v West Ham; Chelsea v Crystal Palace; incl **4.55** Racing roundup **5.05** Jim and the Doc **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** The Acid Test, with Kate Bellingham **8.00** The Ultimate Preview **10.05** Special Assignment (r) **10.30** Crime Desk (r) **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** Nightcall, with Daire Brehan **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Newshour **8.00** News and Features in German **8.30** Weekend **7.00** News **7.15** Turning a Tune **7.30** From Our Own Correspondent **7.50** Sports Extra **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The Greenfield Collection **9.00** News **9.05** Business Review **9.15** Seeing Stars **9.30** Folk Routes **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Science **10.30** In Praise of God **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** News and Press Review in German **12.00** News **12.01pm** Play of the Week: *Brighton Beach Memoirs* **1.00** News **2.01** Guide to the Information Superhighway **2.30** Anything Goes **3.00** News **3.15** Recital **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News and Features in German **5.00** News **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** News and Features in German **7.00** News **7.01** Play of the Week: *Brighton Beach Memoirs* **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Printer's Devil **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Review of the Year **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Guide to the Information Superhighway **12.00** News **12.15am** Early Version **12.30** In Praise of God **1.00** News **1.01** The Blues In EC **1.45** Turning a Tune **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Lee Jénaśek **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** Anything Goes **4.00** Newsdesk

MONDAY MARCH 6

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Clive Warren with the Early Breakfast Show **6.30** Steve Wright in the Morning **9.00** Simon Mayo. **12.00** Lisa L'Anson with a soulful sound at lunchtime, including at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat and at **1.15** The Net, music and entertainment news **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier featuring The Amazing Spiderman, including at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Alan Parker with a guide to rave language, another Rave Report from Danny, and Parker's song, *I Fancy You* **10.00** Mark Radcliffe with guests, live music, words and comedy **Midnight** Lynn Parsons to take you through the night

RADIO 2

FM Stereo **6.00am** Steve Madden **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Fiona Armstrong **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Malcolm Laycock with *Dance Band Days*, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special with the BBC Big Band under Barry Forgie **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz **10.00** Adventures in Jazz, with jazz trombonist Mark Nightingale **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather with Jazz Notes **1.00** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Language and the novel **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air: Morago (Commissa mea pavesco): Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in E, RV269, The Four Seasons: Spring); Françaix (Wind Quintet No 1); **8.05** Saint-Saëns (Phaëton, Op 39); Brahms (Scherzo in E flat minor, Op 4); **8.32** *Quartet Collection*: Haydn (String Quartet in B flat, Op 71 No 1)
9.00 Composers of the Week — Swedish Romantics: Emil Sjogren (Erotikon; Violin Sonata No 1 in G minor; Legends Op 48)
10.00 Musical Encounters with Piers Burton-Page. Handel (Concerto Grosso in B flat, Op 3 No 1); **10.10** Bach (Motet: Der Geist hilft unser Schwachheit auf, BWV 226); **10.20** *Artist of the Week*: Steven Isserlis, cello. Glazunov (Song of the Minstrel, Op 19); **10.25** Ravel (Le tombeau de Couperin); **10.56** Bax (Northern Ballad No 1); **11.05** Purcell (Incidental Music: The Georgian Knot Unty'd); **11.16** Bach (Cello Suite No 5 in C minor, BWV 1011); **11.40** Brahms (Schicksalslied, Op 54)
12.00 Fairest Isle — Britannia at the Opera: Roderic Dunnett introduces the last in the series of highlights of operas from the age of Empire. Charles Villiers Stanford (The Travelling Companion: Chorus of the Royal Opera House; BBC Concert Orchestra under Wordsworth)
1.00 BBC Lunchtime Concert: Live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Schubert (Abendbilder; Himmelslunken; Der Jüngling auf dem Hügel; *Nachtlymne; Das Mädchen; Der Tod und das Mädchen*; Waldesnacht); Mussorgsky (Songs and Dances of Death)
2.00 Schools: 20th-Century Soundbites **2.15** Storybox **2.25** Let's Move **2.45** First Steps in Drama
3.00 The BBC Orchestras: Penufnik (Symphony No 10); Lutoslawski (Livre pour orchestre) (r)
3.46 The First English Organ Music: Graham Barber plays music from the Robertsbridge Fragment and other north European music
4.30 Time and Changes: The Jazz musician Stan Tracey talks to Geoffrey Smith
5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson joins the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble
5.15 In Tune: Sibelius (The Swan of Tuonela); Mozart (Gloria — Coronation Mass); Beethoven (Piano sonata in E flat, Op 81a); Wagner (Prelude: Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg)
7.30 Fairest Isle — Edward Elgar, the Music Maker: Live from the Festival Hall, London. Elgar (Symphonic Study: Falstaff); David Sewer (Trumpet Concerto). **8.25 Honoured Abroad**: Turn-of-the-century British music. **8.45** Elgar (Enigma Variations)
9.30 The Forties: Music at War. Music composed before, during and after the Second World War
9.50 New Waves: Chris de Souza talks to Colin Matthews. Berg (String Quartet, Op 3); Colin Matthews (String Quartet No 1)
10.45 Mixing It
11.30-12.30am Music Restored: Leclair (Deuxième récréation de musique); Handel (Trio Sonata in G); Vivaldi (Concerto in G minor, RV104, La notte); Telemann (Concerto a 4 in A minor)
1.00-2.40 Night School: *Triple bill — Comfort Herself*: Part 1 **1.30** Poetry of Passion **2.00** Dance Resource for PE: Power

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day, with Neelam Bakshi **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **8.55, 7.55**, Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sport News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** History File: Stuart Simon looks back over nearly 20 years with Radio 4's *File on 4* and asks: is anything ever new in the news?
8.55 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week: Melvyn Bragg is joined by scientists David Weekes and Rupert Sheldrake
10.00 News; Wordly Wise (FM only)
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 Something Understood (LW only): A new spiritual anthology
10.30 Woman's Hour: Introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *The Odd Women* by George Gissing (final part). See Pick, page 24
11.30 Money Box Live: 071-580 4444. Vincent Duggsley takes listeners' calls on a topical issue that affects their finances
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Daire Brehan
12.25pm Counterpoint. First semi-final of the music quiz conducted by Ned Sherrin **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Newgate Calendar. *The Tragic Life and Shameful Death of Mary Blandy*. The second of two plays by Christopher Derye
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope: Lynne Walker reviews a new production of *Macbeth* set in gangland Manchester in the 1960s, and an exhibition of "grotesque prints"; and members of the Nash Ensemble play live in the studio
4.45 Short Story: Quorum. Jilly Bond reads Carol Ann Frazer's story about a school reunion
5.00 PM, with Chris Dunkley and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Just a Minute, with Nicholas Parsons (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers: A shot in the dark
7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: A Small Plot of England, by Graham Harvey. A young farm contractor becomes obsessed with the ideas of New Age Travellers. With Michael Lumsden, Susan Jeffrey and Gerry Hinks. Directed by Nigel Bryant
9.00 Dr Burney's Travels: The third of four programmes linking the European tour under taken in the 1770s by music historian Charles Burney, who is played by Timothy West (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel, by Don Marquis. Archy is played by John Guerasio and Mehitabel by Eartha Kitt
11.00-11.30 Burglar! (FM only): The Rev Dr John Polkinghorne talks about his work as a theoretical physicist (r)
11.00-11.30 Education Matters (LW only): What does *Anne Frank's story mean to today's children?*
11.30-12.00 The Vindictiveness of Poppy Carew (FM only): A six-part dramatisation of Mary Wesley's novel with Beatie Edney as Poppy Carew (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.45 News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme **8.35** The Magazine, including at **10.35** Euronews: **11.00** Actuality **12.00** Midday News, including at **12.34pm** Sunday Sequence **1.00** Money-back **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** Voices of the Old Firm: the story of the rivalry between football clubs Rangers and Celtic **8.00** The Monday Match: Liverpool v Southampton **10.05** News Talk, with Niall Dickson **11.00** Night Extra, incl **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.45am** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **8.00** Morgenmagazin **8.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** *Mornon Dos Sources* **7.30** About Face with Mair, including at **12.34pm** Sunday Sequence **1.00** Money-back **2.05** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News Extra, including at **7.20** sport **7.35** Voices of the Old Firm: the story of the rivalry between football clubs Rangers and Celtic **8.00** The Monday Match: Liverpool v Southampton **10.05** News Talk, with Niall Dickson **11.00** Night Extra, incl **11.45** The Financial World Tonight **12.05am** The Other Side of Midnight **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Wieniawski (Violin Concerto No 2 in D minor: Gil Shaham) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic Reports **7.00** A to Z of Classical Music **8.00** Evening Concert: London Classical Players under Roger Norrington. Haydn (Symphony No 13 in D); Stravinsky (Symphony in Three Movements); Martinů (Rhapsody Concerto), Mozart (Symphony No 38 in D, Prague) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mark Griffiths

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **8.00** Morgenmagazin **8.30** Europe Today **7.00** World News **7.15** *Mornon Dos Sources* **7.30** About Face with Mair, including at **8.15** Heart to Heart **8.50** Anything Goes **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Replace a Disc **9.30** The Learning World **9.45** Sport **10.00** News **10.01** Guide to the Information Superhighway **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **10.05** News Talk, with Niall Dickson **11.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** My Music **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** *Mornon Dos Sources* **2.45** Early Versions **3.00** News **3.15** The Blues In EC **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** World News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** World News **7.05** Outlook **7.30** The Essential Qur'an **7.45** Health Matters **8.00** News **8.15** Words of Faith **8.20** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **10.05** Business Report Special **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Multitrack: Hit List **12.00** News **12.15am** A Jolly Good Show **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** My Music **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** John Peel **4.00** Newsdesk

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Russ n' Jono's Breakfast **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** Paul Coyle **11.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Janey Lee Grace

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger **10.00** Caesar the Geezer **1.00am** Wild Al Kelly

SATURDAY MARCH 4

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Neale James with the Weekend Early Show **7.00** Clive Warren with the Weekend Breakfast Show **10.00** Danny Baker with the Weekend Morning Show **12.00** Kevin Greening: Call 0171-637 4343 to make a request **2.00pm** Johnnie Walker, including at **3.30** In Concert: The Cure **5.00** John Peel: featuring sessions from Prophets of Da City, and Elastica **7.00** The Lovegroove Dance Party, with Danny Rampling, including five results of the National Lottery **9.00** The 1FM Rap Show with Weshvood **12.00** Essential Mix, with guest DJs, the Dust Brothers **2.00am** Chill Out Zone, presented by Annie Nightingale

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Brenda Emmanus **6.00** Sujata Barot **8.05** Brian Matthew with Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Judi Spiers **12.00** Hayes on Saturday **1.30pm** Lary Grayson ... Shut That Door (3/5) (r) **2.00** Martin Kelner on Saturday **4.00** Nick Barraclough **6.00** Tom Paxton in Concert, recorded in 1971 **8.00** Reading Music, with Miles Kington **7.00** Comedy Classics: Les Dawson's radio show, *Listen to Lee* (r) **7.30** In Praise of St David: Anghared Rees presents a musical celebration of the patron saint of Wales **9.30** David Jacobs **10.00** Gillian Reynolds with the Radio 2 Arts Programme **12.00am** Ronnie Hilton (r) **12.30** Charles Nove

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: American Conversations: Walter Mosley **6.55** Weather

7.00 Record Review, presented by Richard Osborne. Sullivan (Overture, HMS Pinafore): Mozart (Serenade in C minor, K388); Haydn (String Quartet in D, Op 33 No 6); **7.52** Martinů (Concerto for string quartet and orchestra); **8.12** Beethoven (Violin Sonata in C minor, Op 30 No 2); **8.36** Sullivan (excerpts from HMS Pinafore)

9.00 Building a Library: Shostakovich (Symphony No 15). Peter Paul Nash looks at the new chamber-music releases, including compositions by Brahms, Schoenwerka and Friedrich Dotzauer

10.15 Record Release: Mozart (Divertimento in D, K136); Hindemith (Viola Sonata, Op 11 No 4), **10.45** Dvořák (String Quintet in F, Op 96 — American: Keller Quartet)

11.15 Reissues: Robert Cowan on recent reissues of American orchestras under Stokowski, Koussevitzky, Mengelberg and Toscanini

12.00 Spirit of the Age: The Art of English Poesie explores musical settings of English poetry. Christopher Page and his guests Gillian Boer and John Stevens read aloud and discuss the poetry of John Donne, who has been set by Ferrabosco, Coprario, Henry Lawes and Pelham Humfrey; and Thomas Campion

1.00pm The Forties: Film in the Forties — Warner Bros Goes to War. Warner Bros was at the forefront of the cinematic battle for the hearts and minds of the American public. Colin Shindler looks behind the patriotism of films such as *Yankee Doodle Dandy*, *Sergeant York* and *Casablanca*

1.20 Celebrity Recital: Songs by Rachmaninov, Brahms, Strauss, Barber, Ives and Rorem

2.40 Spring Into Summer: Rorem (Bagatelle, Presto — Spring Music); Barber (Summer Music)

3.00 Behind the Mosque: Christopher Hogwood, including *The Strange Case of John Bull*, a radio talk by Thurston Dart (1961). Bach (Quia fecit mihi magna — Magnificat); Landini (Ecco la primavera); Vivaldi (Concerto in D for 4 violins, Op 3 No 1); Bach (Concerto in D, BWV 1050a); C.P.E. Bach (Fantasy — Hamlet, Wq63 No 6). Mozart (Symphony No 33 in B flat); Stravinsky (Concerto in E flat — Dumbarton Oaks)

5.00 Jazz Record Requests, with Geoffrey Smith

5.45 Music Matters, with Ivan Hewett. Purcell (Funeral Music for Queen Mary); David Sawer on his new Trumpet Concerto. Sophie Yates on playing virginals; John Rockwell on New York's Lincoln Center

6.30 Live from the Met: Chorus and Orchestra of the Metropolitan Opera under James Levine perform Act 1 of Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*. Wah Mechthild Gessendorf as Marschallin and Anne Sofie Von Otter as Octavian; **7.45** Bridget Parsleoe explores the collaboration between Richard Strauss and the poet, playwright and librettist, Hugo von Hofmannsthal; **8.10** Act 2: **9.05** The Opera Quiz: Edward Downes's guests are Philip Gammley, Speight Jenkins and William Weaver; **9.35** Act 3

10.50 Why Bother? Sir Arthur Streeb Greebling (aka Peter Cook) on his experiment to produce a horizontal bubble (r)

11.00-12.45am Inaiseathfeable, with Miles Kington. Three men go way beyond producing music, which goes way beyond jazz

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.50** Prayer for the Day **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, incl half-hourly News **8.55**, **7.55** Weather **7.25**, **8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Sport on 4, with Cliff Morgan

9.30 Breakaway: Holiday and travel programme presented by Simon Parkes

10.00 News; Loose Ends (FM only): Ned Sherrin presents an hour of lively conversation

11.00 News; The Week in Westminster

11.30 Europhile: David Walter presents a profile of Alexander Lebed, Russia's most outspoken army general, and revolutionary changes in Portugal's port industry

12.00 Money Box: Personal finance

12.28pm Just a Minute: Chairman Nicholas Parsons challenges Peter Jones, Derek Nimmo, Paul Merton and Steve Frost **12.55** Weather

1.00 News 1.10 Any Questions? In Belfast with a panel including Professor Simon Lee of Queen's University (r) **1.58** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Any Answers? 0171-580 4444

2.30 Playhouse: Winners. Aysha Rell's play is about a woman who wins a million in the National Lottery. . Directed by Claire Grove

3.45 Getting to Know the Admiral: Jan Morris talks about her 40-year obsession with Lord "Jacky" Fisher, Admiral of the Fleet and architect of the Royal Navy that fought the First World War

4.00 News; That's History, with Roy Porter

4.30 Science Now

5.00 File on 4: Jolyon Jenkins reports (r)

5.40 Footnotes: Martin Wainwright celebrates the achievements of figures neglected by history. Ernest "Chinese" Wilson was a plant hunter whom we have to thank for the lily, the kiwi fruit and the handkerchief tree **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.25 Week Ending: Satirical review of the week's news (r)

6.50 Postcard from Gotham: Joe Queenan presents more insiders' views of the week's stories in America and looks at the 1990s face of the American billionaire

7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature: The Art of Reading. What does the advent of computer books mean for the printed page and the painted page?

7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: An Urnful of Ashes. Rukhsana Ahmed's play is set in India in 1992. Against a backdrop of the Babri Mosque riots, the search for a lost friend leads Rozina to an encounter with 16th-century mogul India. With Saeed Jaffrey, Yasmin Sidhwa and Veyu Naidu

9.20 Music in Mind, with Brian Kay

9.50 Ten to Ten: Maggie Roux leads a hymn, a reading and a reflection **9.59** Weather

10.00 News

10.15 The New Recruit: Barry Hawley, who started in the hotel trade in 1949, returns to the Eden Arms Hotel to meet the new manager (r)

10.30 Murder before Midnight: Double Indemnity. John Fletcher's dramatisation of James M. Cain's play stars Frederic Forest, Molly Ringwald and Theresa Russell. Directed by Andy Jordan (r)

12.00-12.43am News incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service **(LW)**

RADIO 4 FM

6.00am Morning Reports **6.05** Daily Tackle **6.30** The Breakfast Programme **9.05** Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker, including at **10.15** Look Sharp **11.05** Special Assignment **11.35** Crime Desk **12.00** Midday Edition **12.15pm** Sportsreal **1.55** Sport on Five, with Ian Peyne. Rugby Union: five nations' championship between Scotland and Wales and Ireland v France; Football. English and Scottish leagues: Racing from Newbury **5.05** Six-O-Six, with David Mellor **7.05** Saturday Edition, with Richard Dalyn **9.05** Asian Perspective, presented by Nigel Marsh **10.05** The Treatment, with Stuart Maconie **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night, with Richard Dalyn

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** Classic Countdown, with Paul Gambaccini **12.00** Gardening Forum, from the Brogdale Horticultural Trust, Kent **1.00pm** Angela Rippon **3.00** The Saturday Alternative, with Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic America at the Met **7.00** World Opera Season: Offenbach (La vie parisienne. Michel Sénéchal, tenor, Regine Crespin, soprano; Toulouse Capitole Chorus and Orchestre under Michel Plasson) **10.00** The Classic Quiz, with Quentin Howard **Midnight-5.00am** Mark Griffiths

Virgin 1215

6.00am Mitch Johnson **8.00** Breakfast Show Greatest Hits **10.00** Richard Skinner **2.00pm** Gary King **6.00** Paul Coyle **10.00** Back 2 Back **2.00am** Howard Pearce

World Service

All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** Fruhmagazin **5.00** Newshour **6.00** Morgenmagazin **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Waveguide **7.28** Book Choice **7.30** People and Politics **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** A Jolly Good Show **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Worldbrief **9.30** Development '95 **9.45** Sport **10.00** Printer's Devil **10.15** Letter from America **10.30** Waveguide **10.40** Book Choice **10.45** From the Weeklies **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **12.00** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack: Alternative **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **2.01** Sportsworld **3.00** News **3.15** Sportsworld cont. **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.01** Classified Football Results **5.55** Waveguide **6.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** News **7.01** The Blues in EC **7.45** From the Weeklies **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Development '95 **8.30** Jazz **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** Words of Faith **10.10** Book Choice **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sport **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** That was the Year... **12.00** News **12.15am** Good Books **12.30** John Dunn **1.00** News **1.01** *Brighton Beach Memoirs* **2.00** News **2.30** About Face **3.00** News **3.15** Sport **3.30** From Our Own Correspondent **3.50** Write On **4.00** News

Classic FM

6.00am Pick of the Week **7.00** Maurice Dee **10.00** Dr David Starkey **1.00pm** Gary Jacobs **3.00** David Freeman **5.00** The World's Biggest Quiz **7.00** Janet's Planet **10.00** The Other Side **1.00-6.00am** Nick Miller

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **Television and radio listings compiled by Linda Galloway, Peter Dear, Susan Thomson, Rosemary Smith and Gillian Maxey**

PICK OF THE WEEK

Women get their day



Lesley Joseph chairs *Nothing Like A Dame* (Radio 2, Wed. 7.03pm) as part of International Women's Day

Are women properly served by radio? Judging by my own postbag and the necessarily more extensive one at Radio 4's *Feedback*, my impression is that women are more inclined than men to complain about radio programming.

The fact that a woman, Liz Forgan, runs the BBC networks probably makes women all the more sharp of ear for any sign that what Ms Forgan wants is presumed to be what women in general want. Certainly most of the women writing to the BBC were perplexed at the switch of *Woman's Hour* from afternoon to morning, a move not assisted by recent I'IV research which showed that most women find the hour between 2pm and 3pm the one time when they are most likely to be able to relax with a good radio programme. *Woman's Hour*, of course, used to be transmitted at that time.

Whether women want or need their own slot in the calendar is a different moot point, but International Women's Day is now so entrenched as to be immoveable. This year it will be happening, in broadcast terms, on Radio 2 on Wednesday, with brief segments throughout the day in which various celebs — including Rolf Harris, John Humphrys, Glenda Jackson and Linford Christie — talk about the influence women have had on their lives.

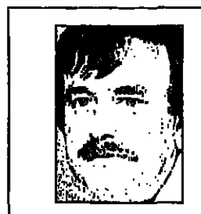
The main events are an **Afternoon Concert** (Radio 2, Wednesday, 2pm) and **Nothing Like A Dame** (Radio 2, Wednesday, 7.03pm), the latter described as "a musical quiz for and about women". Beverley Craven tops the bill in the concert, which is introduced by Fiona Armstrong in the slot normally occupied by Gloria Hunniford.

The evening quiz is a curiosity, in that it is chaired by Lesley Joseph from *Birds of a Feather*. I happen to think Ms Joseph is a good actress and a spirited personality, but her television persona as the sex-and-money obsessed clothes-horse would hardly strike the average man as an archetype modern woman straight out of early Germaine Greer.

Perhaps this is Radio 2's little joke. Or perhaps men are still failing to understand the more prosaic achievements that women want as a manifestation of feminist philosophy. Search me.

I still think that a woman's (radio) place is listening to **Woman's Hour** (Radio 4, weekdays, 10.30am), an excellent programme for people of every gender which has an especially interesting interview on Thursday when Dame Diana Rigg discusses whether Britain still needs arts patronage.

The other much-vaunted programme on Radio 2 in the coming week is the start of a new series, Marc Blake's **Whining for England** (Thursday, 7.03pm). I recommend it without bruising it,



Peter Barnard recommends

for on the evidence of the first show this is a good idea let down by the writing, but a sense of humour is a rich and varied thing so you may fall about in time with the studio audience. I fell asleep.

My problem with the concept here is that most of our whines are so familiar (the weather, British Rail) that it takes real originality to sustain this kind of programme. Still, musn't grumble.

There is more promising comedy this week in the shape of **Paradise Lost In Space** (Radio 4, Thursday, 6.30pm), a new series with good credentials. The stars are Tony Robinson, Louise Lombard, David Haigh and Michael Troughton, and the writer is Colin Swash, who produced the excellent Ian Hislop series *Gush* for Radio 4 and who is the producer of *Have I Got News For You*.

The story concerns the crash-landing of humans on a planet called Oblivio, where the Oblivions have been living in bliss until the earth-folk decide the locals can be taught a thing or two. The incomers send Oblivio to oblivion, as if you hadn't guessed.

Radio 3's *Fairest Isle* series, the celebration of British music lasting all year, has a landmark concert this week in **Queen Mary's Funeral** (tomorrow, Sunday, 7.40pm). You can tell it is a landmark because the programme is introduced by Nicholas Kenyon, the controller of Radio 3, and if a BBC controller is in charge it must be a landmark.

This one has a fair claim, though, for it comes 300 years to the day after Queen Mary was buried and features music associated with her life. The funeral music has special interest because Henry Purcell was organist at Westminster Abbey at the time.

The dismal state of British sport is meat and drink to the best, if not the only, analytical series on radio, which is **On The Line** (tomorrow, Sunday, Radio 5 Live, 1.35pm). Tomorrow the subject is English cricket but happily this does not mean another spell from the tedious Fred Truman explaining what's wrong with Devon Malcolm's delivery stride.

On The Line explores the real problem, which is the condition of the game at the grass roots, including the astonishing state of the London Cricket Academy. That has been in existence for 11 years and has produced 16 county players. Yet the cricket powers-that-be have, in all that time, given it just £1,000. It's enough to make one whine for England.

Dolly mixture is still a winning formula

The woman villain we all seem to love is back. **Hilary Kingsley** on how a fan's letter inspired a second sequel to *Widows*

If Wormwood Scrubs was evacuated and designated the prison to which villains from television dramas are sent, there would probably be severe overcrowding again. Men who have committed small-screen crimes are too numerous to list.

There is, though, only one Dolly Rawlins, wronged woman turned thief and killer, deserving in many ways, not the least of a loyal viewers' fan club. She became a widow — or so she thought — and eventually the mastermind of an armed robbery in 1983.

That was the plot of *Widows*, Thames Television's risk-taking thriller about three women who inherited their late husbands' "licence" to steal and hired other women to help them do it. The risks were that Dolly was no glamourpuss, that all the women were played by largely unknown actresses and that the moral of the story was that crime could pay.

With around 13 million viewers and several critics' awards, *Widows* seemed to be the start of Lynda La Plante's screenwriting success (after years of rejections) and a confirmation that Verity Lambert (*Dr Who*, *The Newcomers*, *Budgie*, *Minder*), one of the few female executives in ITV, was destined for industry stardom.

That a busy screen future awaited the stage actress Ann Mitchell after her portrayal of deceived Dolly (her husband turned out to be alive and living with a younger woman) looked certain too.

No such luck. La Plante was to write a *Widows* sequel in 1985, in which the women headed for luxury and obscurity in Rio, but then to languish in her own obscurity until *Prime Suspect* in 1991 proved her true grit.

Lambert became the head of production at EMI, launching multi-million pound movies but "hated it" and, thwarted by the committee-style decision-making, left a few years later to go independent with a small team.

Worst of all, while Dolly dwindled in jail, mainstream television continued to hire women with wrinkles only for comedy, soap operas or supporting roles. So

***She's Out*, ITV, Monday, 9pm**

Mitchell returned to the theatre and to teaching drama at The Guildhall and to the widows' real counterparts at Holloway Prison.

The fan club hadn't forgotten her, though. Last year one of them wrote to La Plante to remind her that Dolly would have served enough of the ten year sentence for murder (of her husband) begun in January 1986 (with time off for good behaviour) to be freed this spring.

"Lynda rang me and asked what I thought," says Lambert, whose Cinema Verity company had meanwhile produced *Comics*, written by La Plante, and Alan Bleasdale's *GBH* for Channel 4, along with several sit-coms and the ill-fated *Eldorado* for the BBC.

"I knew viewers liked Dolly, not so much for her criminality as for her vulnerability, so I thought *Dolly's Out* or **She's Out**, as it became, was a wonderful idea."

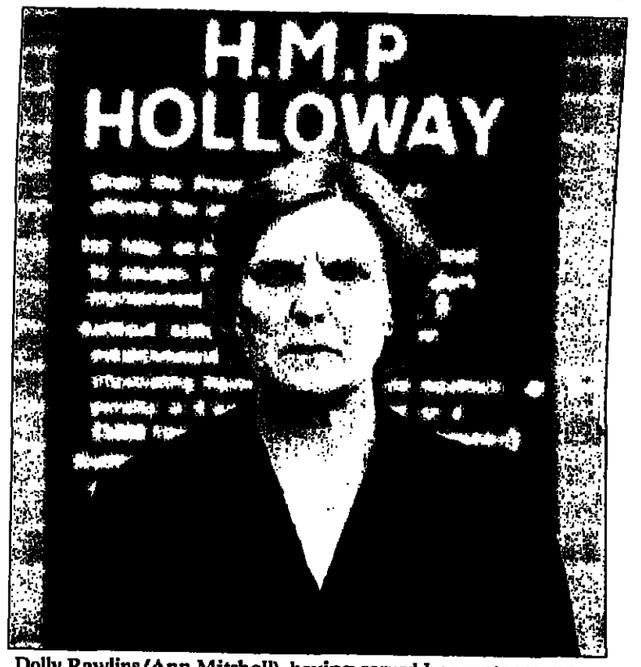
La Plante, who'd set up her own production company and was then juggling umpteen projects including *The Governor*, a series about the woman governor of a men's prison (to star Janet McTeer later this year on Carlton), initially thought she might manage a two or three-part Dolly story.

"I knew she would find the material for a six-part serial once she began her research," Lambert says, "so I took the idea to Carlton and the Network Centre ummed and aahed a bit and then said 'yes'."

The result is, maybe, not the most likely contemporary tale of need, greed and grudging camaraderie among a new gang of seven women on the outside of the law, holed up in a derelict health farm. But as the police, and the mother of one of the widows killed in the last heist, conspire to stop Dolly recovering stolen diamonds and her dream of opening a children's home collapses, the pace quickens.

Bestriding it all is Ann Mitchell, who delivers Dolly's parting words to a warder and governor in a way that will cause cheers in every women's prison in the land.

The women end up plotting to rob a train. "Television is still terribly male-orientated," Lambert says. "But if you put women in non-traditional but three-dimensional roles and make the story exciting, men as well as women will watch. Even if the men don't admit it."



Dolly Rawlins (Ann Mitchell), having served her sentence, now plans to recover the diamonds she stole, in *She's Out*

Tony Patrick samples a mouth-watering new series from Madhur Jaffrey

In the best possible taste

Exploding onto the screen with bright, bold colours and exotic music, **Flavours of India** is a journey through the cooking and culture of six distinct regions of the sub-continent: the Punjab, Kerala, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Bengal and Goa. The presenter, Madhur Jaffrey, whose expertise and pre-eminence in Asian cuisine are beyond dispute, seems particularly animated in these half-hour programmes.

She crams in recipes tighter than passengers on a Calcutta bus, meanwhile sketching in the character of each region and its people. She also offers a brief guide to local attractions, which should be compulsory viewing for the flippant likes of Magenta De Vine, of the all-too-*Rough Guides* series.

Jaffrey is elegance and unflustered grace throughout; the contrast between her own calm confidence and the often chaotic cacophony of urban India is especially impressive. Whether in the spice market of Fort Cochin, Kerala, or the communal kitchens of the Sikh temples of Amritsar, where 3,000 free meals are prepared, she glides smilingly through, never missing a beat as she dispenses information to the camera.

And the food is as dazzling as it is strongly flavoured: mustard oil or ghee, in gleaming copper and steel pans, seethes with sweet peppers, shallots, green and red chillies, garlic by the handful, fresh herbs

***Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India*
BBC2, Tuesday, 8.30pm**

and coconut. If you watch the programmes after dinner, be prepared to find yourself hungry again, and tempted to slip back to the kitchen for a swift stir-fry.

While Jaffrey's demonstrations of how to prepare various dishes are models of clarity, they are necessarily taken at a fast clip, so you will either have to record and watch again, with one finger on the pause button, or invest in the book of the series, which was published in mid-February (BBC Books; £17.99 hardback, £12.99 paperback).

The non-culinary images on screen are frequently most beautiful, whether of natural splendours or elaborately carved towers and temples, simple village houses or marbled palace halls. Jaffrey involves the locals in her quest; they include Sonali Basu, an actress and singer, who cooks potatoes with tomatoes and deep-fried bread stuffed with green peas for a typical Calcutta breakfast; and in Gujarat she meets Anand Sarabhai, a Jain inventor and biologist, who has created pasta made from split peas and yoghurt.

By no means all the cooking is in the same style. In Tamil Nadu, rice is all-important, and steaming rather than frying is the method of choice. In Gujarat, vegetarianism is the norm. Goa's dishes reflect the influence of the Portuguese, who ruled it for centuries.

There, and in Kerala (where the series begins), they have innumerable recipes using sea and freshwater fish, while the Punjab, with its tandoor ovens, and West Bengal, with its Anglo-Indian legacy, cater handsomely for anyone who is a meat-eater.

It's hard for a mother to support a family, it's even harder for a child



In some of the world's poorest countries, families are forced to send even very young children out to work. These children are not only denied an education but also a childhood.

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Continued overleaf

OFF THE BOX

Peak viewing success

WHILE the BBC seems to have lost the knack of popular drama — its newest, *Crown Prosecutor*, attracted only around six million viewers with its first show — Carlton's *Peak Practice* is peaking almost too successfully. With the first four episodes each attracting around 15 million viewers and taking a 56 per cent share of the audience, detailed plans to switch to half-hours next year have been scrapped in case the spell is broken. But a problem remains with Amanda Burton and Kevin Whateley, who play the series' leads, husband and wife doctors. Both have declined to sign new contracts following reports of an off-screen friendship which are said to have embarrassed them. Whateley, shortly to film an *Inspector Morse* as Sergeant Lewis, wants to be free for other projects. "We are hoping to change Amanda Burton's mind," says a spokesman.

■ WINSTON Churchill's infirmity in his later years was skilfully concealed by his family. This and other claims will be debated in *The Churchills*, a three-part series screening in May on ITV made by Phillip Whitehead and the team which produced *The Kennedys* and *The Windsors*.

Tyre less

STEVE Coogan had let it be known that Alan Partridge was in mothballs and nothing must distract him from the task of writing a new comedy series with Alexei Sayle's collaborators, Graham Linehan and Arthur Mathews. But at the last minute the Porsche-driving comedian succumbed to the temptation of narrating *Auto Erotic*, Channel 4's three-part celebration of the art of car design beginning on Tuesday (see Car 95, page 9). Happily, Linehan and Mathews report that *Six Slices of Steve Coogan* is still on the road for later this year.

■ ZSA ZSA Gabor so enjoys appearing on telelvison with Ruby Wax, even if she's at the receiving end of Wax wit, that she appears in the comedienne's current advertisement for Ford (being snubbed) for no fee. It seems the veteran glamour girl warmed to Wax when she demanded to know if Zsa Zsa had had as many face-lifts as husbands. "I've had none. See, darlink!" declared Gabor, flinging her head and hair forward for Wax to inspect a scar-free neck. "I agreed with her. Why do you think she's my friend now?" Wax says.

HILARY KINGSLEY

No gain without growing pains

Two more American series about adolescent angst are poised to hit British shores. **Victoria McKee** reports



Party of Five is the story of five orphans who attempt to raise themselves after Mom and Dad have died in a car crash

Adolescent angst is an increasingly popular American import — as if we didn't have enough of our own. *Beverly Hills 90210*, *Saved By The Bell*, *California Dreams* and *Boy Meets World* (among others) are being joined from tomorrow, Sunday, by **Party of Five** on Channel 4.

Party of Five and *My So-Called Life*, another series about teenagers which Channel 4 has also bought and intends to show later in the year, have both been recognised only as "niche market" television in America. On the rival networks NBC and ABC, they have attracted audiences of around ten million — substantial here, but insignificant in America. This lack of interest, according to the woman dubbed America's leading media guru, Betsy Frank of Saatchi & Saatchi New York, is because American teenagers are too busy experiencing adolescent angst to spend prime-time hours slumped in front of the television. And because, when they do, "They don't necessarily want to see things about people like themselves — they'd rather aspire upwards".

Party of Five, tomorrow, Sunday, Channel 4, 6pm

My So-Called Life, by the Bedford Falls Company that produced *thirtysomething*, was the subject of an emotional e-mail campaign by high school students after it was dropped by ABC and its producers and cast are currently waiting nervously to find out whether there will be a second series. "Enormous critical success is often the only thing worse than abject failure," its executive producer, Ed Zwick, says. It is a warm but not cosy *thirtysomething*-style treatment of adolescence, sharpened by a stunning central performance by Clare Danes, the 15-year-old who plays Beth in the new film of *Little Women*, which opens here soon.

Its writer, Winnie Holtzman, deplores "candy-coated television programmes about teenagers". *My So-Called Life* has the "through the keyhole" feeling of having opened a teenager's diary, and in that sense is reminiscent of British series such as *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* or *Diary of a Teenage Health Freak*.

Party of Five manages to be both less artful and less realistic. It is a wildly improbable story of five orphans (ranging in age from 24 months to 24 years) who attempt to raise themselves after Mom and Dad have died in a car crash, learning predictable lessons about life along the way.

We meet up with them six months after the accident — surprisingly emotionally well-adjusted but not doing so well in managing the money doled out to them quarterly from a mysterious trust fund controlled by distant and apparently uncaring hands.

Chris Keyser, the executive producer and co-creator and writer of the series for Columbia Tristar, says: "It's relevant to all families because so many kids are raising themselves alone anyway today, with two parents working."

So why has his show attracted such a puny audience in America? Keyser says: "A show like this or *My So-Called Life* places a lot of demands on an audience — you're forced to care about the people, and audiences used to letting things wash over them don't like that. You can watch *90210* from a distance. These are tougher to sit through."

It didn't seem too tough an emotional investment to me — although *USA* has called it "a sweet and emotionally compelling drama" and *The New York Post* "an extraordinary, impressive show". Plot lines about hiring a sexy new nanny for the baby, and tracking down a missing grandfather are weak. Will British teenagers tune in? My 13-year-old son, who has seen a couple of episodes, doesn't think so but the programme might be carried — as it has been for 22 episodes so far in America — by the interesting new faces of Mathew Fox (as 24-year-old Charlie, the leader of the family), Scott Wolf (as 16-year-old Bailey) and Neve Campbell (as 15-year-old Julia).

Keyser dismisses *My So-Called Life* by saying: "That's about kids who worry about everything. This is about kids who have a lot to worry about but get through it. We are much more upbeat."

Brigid Callaghan reports on a film that investigates the explosion in holidays afloat

Can the cruising market stay buoyant?



P&O's new flagship, *Oriana*, has berths for 1,975 passengers

Is cruising a working class holiday — or the holiday of the future? According to some, bigger ships and lower prices are turning the once elegant and exclusive pursuit into a package holiday on the ocean wave. But David Crossland, the chairman of Airtours plc, which recently bought two second-hand ships and offers Mediterranean cruises at £449, says that even to ask the question about class is "terribly snobbish".

Gamble On The Ocean Wave, tomorrow, Sunday, Channel 4, 5pm

High Interest's examination of the business of cruising, Gamble On The Ocean Wave, concentrates on P&O's new cruising flagship, the £200 million, 1,975 passenger *Oriana*. P&O is the market leader in cruising for UK passengers, a market which has tripled in the last six years but is still small in comparison to America. Has P&O made a wise investment or did it fail to anticipate the effects of recession and fierce competition? It must attract new business without alienating existing customers; it says that the new ship's extensive facilities for children are a reflection of established needs, not an attempt to woo the family market.

The chairman of Saga Holidays, which caters for the over 50s, says families and older people do not mix well on board. He thinks the market is over-crowded and warns customers to take care in choosing a ship. He is irritated by some ships' quest for youthful passengers. A few years ago, Saga was asked by P&O not to sell its holidays but it was asked back and has sold berths on the *Oriana*.

On board the *Oriana*'s sister ship, the *Canberra*, some are thrilled to have places on the new ship's now fully-booked maiden voyage in April, but there are questions about why a British ship has been built in Germany, at the Meyer Werft yard in Papenburg.

P&O says that some British yards did not tender and others could not undertake to meet the price or the deadline. The Meyer yard is 30 miles from the sea on the River Ems. The river was dredged to allow the ship's passage to the sea and environmentalists and fishermen protested. Five thousand local people, in an area where Meyer employs 1,800, demonstrated in favour of the dredging. Eventually, *High Interest* reports, Meyer paid the fishermen £1.5 million and the regional government spent £8 million on environmental projects.

The programme says that only 20 per cent of *Oriana*'s £200 million cost was spent in Britain (carpet, stabilisers, china, library furniture by David Linley). The steel is from Poland, lifeboats from Holland, bathrooms from France, propellers — employing melted down Deutschmarks from the former East Germany — from Denmark.

Douglas Ward of the Maritime Evaluations Group blesses the *Oriana* and all who sail in her. He says he would have ordered two. The growth in the cruise market will be, he says, "spectacular".

FRIDAY MARCH 10

CHOICE: Red nose report; Seville's barber on song; Finlay's casebook closes; Anglo-Italian gardening

Connolly brings smiles to a devasted land

When Billy Connolly visited Mozambique in 1989 on behalf of Comic Relief, his small daughter misheard and called the country Nose and Beak. She is obviously a comedian in the making. Meanwhile dad is back in Africa for **Billy Connolly's Return to Nose and Beak** (BBC1, 9.30pm), updating his previous report. The good news is that the 16-year civil war has ended. The bad news is that land mines are still blowing the legs off small children unlucky enough to tread in the wrong place. Connolly visits some of the victims as well as watching the emotional reunion of a widowed father and the children he has not seen for five years. Sympathetic without being patronising, Connolly is an ideal person to explain the Third World's troubles to the First.

Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* is the latest opera to get the animated treatment, courtesy of the inventive Russian company, Christmas Films, in **Operavox** (BBC2, 7.30pm). Tiny wooden puppets, with hand-carved faces, are at the centre of the production which hardly stops for breath as it works hectically through the plot, or as much of it as can be crammed into half an hour. The novelty, and the source of many visual jokes, is showing the scenery being slotted into place and stage hands dashing in and out to arrange the props.

Admirers of **Dr Finlay** (ITV, 9pm) probably wish that now and again, just for a change, there would be a leavening of its sombre plot lines. Admittedly, the show can do nothing about the weather, which seems unrelievedly grey, but the odd joke or two would be welcome. Unfortunately, however, this is the last episode of the current series and there is not a laugh in sight. Tannochbrae is thrown into turmoil after Dr Napier (Jessica Turner) fails to diagnose a case of diphtheria, an old friend of Cameron (Ian Bannen) is dying of cancer and Finlay (David Rintoul) is called to a horrible car crash.

La Landriana, south-west of Rome, is the destination for the cheery Yorkshire horticulturalist, Alan Mason, and wine expert-cum-tree buff, Hugh Johnson, in **Gardens Without Borders** (Channel 4, 8pm). The garden lies on the Pontine Marshes and was started, surprisingly, only in the early 1960s. The plan was drawn up by an Englishman, Russell Page, making it an ideal subject for a series about the interchange between English and Italian design.

PETER WAYMARK



Billy Connolly returns to Mozambique (BBC1, 9.30pm)

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (61478)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95291942)
9.05 Kilroy (s) (6342213)
10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by regional news (Ceefax) and weather (7737284) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r) (Ceefax) (8744497)
10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (7162861)
12.00 News (Ceefax) followed by regional news and weather (1695652)
12.05 Pebble Mill (s) (7361665) **12.55 Regional News** (Ceefax) and weather (15994671)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (39774)
1.30 Neighbours. Dave learns about Annalise's poetry (Ceefax) (s) (77711045)
1.50 Crown Prosecutor (Ceefax) (r) (s) (35808652)
2.20 Holiday. Jill Dando visits Torquay, Gabi Roslin sails around the Galapagos Islands (r). (Ceefax) (s) (74699213)
2.50 The Flying Doctors (Ceefax) (r) (s) (1793768)
3.35 Cartoon Double Bill. *The Wayward Pups* and *The Pen* (2094478) **3.45** Bitse (s) (2007942) **4.00 Jackanory** (s) (4313213) **4.10** Rugrats (s) (8031107) **4.25** *The Borrowers* (Ceefax) (r) (s) (9158923)
4.55 Newsround Extra. Dieting to Death — Britain's Anorexic Children (7812672)
5.05 Grange Hill. Wayne has a nasty surprise for Poppy. (Ceefax) (s) (6204687)
5.35 Neighbours (Ceefax) (r) (s) (746942)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) (671)
6.30 Regional news magazines (923) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours **Wales:** Wales Today
7.00 Wipeout. Quiz show with Paul Daniels (Ceefax) (s) (6316)
7.30 Tomorrow's World (Ceefax) (s) (107)
8.00 The Unforgettable EastEnders (Ceefax) (r) (s) (9836)
8.30 Do the Right Thing. Terry Wogan asks celebrity guests Gary Bushell, Maria McErlane and James Pickles to decide whether parents can ever legitimately steal for their children (s) (1671)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) followed by regional news and weather (1039)
9.30 Billy Connolly in Nose and Beak (242836) **Northern Ireland:** Anderson on the Box 10.25 Billy Connolly in Nose and Beak (938861) 11.20 FILM: The Graduate (276584) 1.05 FILM: Critical Condition (7895546)
10.25 FILM: The Graduate (1967). A young Californian finds himself in a mess after dallying with a friend of his parents and then falling in love with her daughter. Starring Dustin Hoffman, Anne Bancroft and Katharine Ross. (Ceefax) (644316) **Wales:** Paper Dragon (608565) **10.55** FILM: The Graduate (80405854) **12.40** FILM: Critical Condition (4096492)
12.05am FILM: Critical Condition (1987) with Richard Pryor, Joe Mantegna and Ruben Blades. A con artist feigns insanity when he is arrested and winds up running a prison hospital. (Ceefax) (1956814) **1.35** Weather (6721782)

BBC2

6.20am Open University: Sealing the Salt Barrier (7374590) **6.45** The Emergence of Greek Mathematics (2137774) **7.10** History of Science: It's a Lovely Day Tomorrow (5347720) **7.35** Child Development: Babies' Minds (5020045)
8.00 Breakfast News (6621865)
8.15 Germany 1925-32. A look at the boom in German industry in the 1920s (4788010)
8.20 Boating Butler. The Black Country end Birmingham (r) (3362774)
8.50 A Week to Remember (b/w). Pathé footage from 1955 (8295107)
9.00 Winning: Teamwork (s) (52590)
9.30 Over the Moon: Life in 1953 (5570128) **9.45** Words and Pictures (5668381) **10.00** Playdays (s) (8828403) **10.25** Look and Read (1883039) **10.45** Science Zone — Changes in Materials (s) (4093294) **11.05** Space Ark — Changes in Material (6872294) **11.15** See You, See Me: Sex France (s) (6529774) **11.30** English File: Language and Gender (6774)
12.00 TV6: Nature. Noise pollution and the law. (Ceefax) (s) (76126)
12.30pm Working Lunch. Business news (92652)
1.00 Scene. Shakers (s) (37316)
1.30 Q and A (s) (25302316) **1.45** Come Outside (2622671) **2.00** Johnson and Friends (87070768) **2.10 Open View** (65867923)
2.15 Sport on Friday. World Indoor Athletics Championships from Barcelona, World Championship figure skating from Birmingham and bobsleigh action from Winterberg in Germany (s) (735720)
3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by regional news and weather (9819381)
4.00 Today's the Day. Quiz show about this day in history (s) (836)
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Two top chefs cook to beat the clock (s) (720)
5.00 Esther (s) (1294)
5.30 All In the Mind. Mental agility quiz (800)
6.00 World Figure Skating Championships and Athletics. The ladies short event from Birmingham plus coverage of the World Indoor Athletics Championships in Barcelona (46300)
7.30 Operavox: The Barber of Seville (Ceefax) (s) (749)
8.00 The Photo Show. Featuring Liza Goddard's tips on taking photographs of your pets and a printing masterclass. (Ceefax) (s) (7476)
8.30 Gardeners' World (Ceefax) (s) (9213)
9.00 Steptoe and Son: Sunday for Seven Days (b/w). Classic comedy (r). (Ceefax) (2381)
9.30 World Figure Skating Championships. The free dance competition with commentary by Sue Barker and Robin Cousins. Followed by Video Nation Shorts (15687)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (995316)
11.15 The Mrs Merton Show. Comedy with Caroline Hook as an agony aunt (Ceefax) (s) (4223476)
11.45 Duckman (985229) **12.10am** Weatherview (4594879)
12.15am FILM: I Walked With a Zombie (1943, b/w). A Canadian nurse arrives on a Caribbean island to nurse a woman with unexplained paralysis. Starring Frances Dee and Tom Conway (4834898)

CARLTON/LWT

6.00am GMTV (7700749)
9.25 Chain Letters. Word game presented by Ted Robbins (s) (3138381) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8732652)
10.00 The Time... the Place. John Stapleton presides over the members of a studio audience as they discuss a topic of particular interest to them (s) (7930132)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (28697403) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1591836)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2143519)
12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (2048010) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57982126)
1.55 The Chrystal Rose Show. Frank debate with a studio audience (s) (35905519) **2.25** A Country Practice. Bernice is smitten by Robbie Agnew (s) (74892300)
2.50 Take the High Road (7283774) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (9949213) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6948584)
3.30 Rosie and Jim (s) (2004855) **3.45 Warner Brothers Cartoons** (2092010) **4.00 Zzzap!** (s) (8035923) **4.15 Tiny Toon Adventures** (6363010) **4.40 The Geeks.** Quizmasters Bob Holness and Dale Winton are put on the hotspot. (Teletext) (s) (9994497)
5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (6125126)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (804045)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (271294)
6.25 London Tonight presented by Lindsay Charlton and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (998300)
7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right. The comedian hosts the gameshow where prizes can be won or lost by the turn of a card. (Teletext) (s) (8584)
7.30 Coronation Street. Reg braves the Rovers sporting his new hairpiece. (Teletext) (403)
8.00 The Bill: Loose Cannon. Why are CID undermining an operation to stamp out underage prostitutes? (Teletext) (4872)
8.30 The Upper Hand. Romantic comedy starring Joe McGann and Diane Weston. Tom borrows Charlie's jeep — without his permission. (Teletext) (s) (3039)
9.00 Doctor Finlay: Not Time for Heroes. The doctors are forced to confront personal struggles in their work. With David Rintoul and Ian Bannen. (Teletext) (s) (8571)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (64381)
10.30 FILM: Youngblood (1986). Rob Lowe stars as a boy who leaves his father's farm to play ice hockey and falls for the coach's daughter. With Patrick Swayze and Cynthia Gibb. Directed by Peter Markle (46881)
12.30am London Tonight (Teletext) (5184614)
12.40 Get Wet (3985324)
1.05 The James Whale Show. Late-night entertainment (s) (6731459)
2.05 The Chart Show (s) (6858256)
3.00 Noisy Motors (s) (3265508)
3.55 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (s) (8011492)
4.30 The New Music featuring Van Halen and Pop Will Eat Itself (31188)
5.30 ITN Morning News (10614). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandoken (r) (2131590)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (56497)
9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (54958)
9.30 Schools: Eureka! (5565294) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen (5560749) **10.00** Fourways Farm (7744584) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (1882300) **10.25** Eurokids (1887855) **10.40** Off Limits (3786377) **11.05** Schools at Work (6963590) **11.11** Time for Maths (8442671) **11.22** Stage One (5439107) **11.40** Time Capsule (4053855)
12.00 Profiles of Nature. The life cycle of mountain goats in the Canadian and American Rockies (r) (61294)
12.30 Sesame Street with Susan Sarandon (27045) **1.30 The Magic Roundabout** followed by **The Wombles**, **Paddington** and **The Clangers** (r) (36815942)
1.55 The Three Stooges in *Booby Doops* (b/w). The hapless trio set out to prove they are the world's top anglers (77634942)
2.20 FILM: Don't Take It To Heart (1944, b/w) starring Richard Greene and Patricia Medina. Comedy about a lawyer who becomes involved with the daughter of an aristocrat, a ghost and villagers fighting a greedy landowner. Directed by Jeffrey Dell (741381)
4.00 Waterways. Dick Warner continues his leisurely journey along the waterways of Ireland (r). (Teletext) (132)
4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (316)
5.00 Cutting Edge: Amnesia (r). (Teletext) (5497)
6.00 Blossom. Los Angels-based teen comedy series starring Mayim Bialik. (Teletext) (s) (361)
6.30 Movievatch. Film magazine. Includes reviews of *Disclosure*, *Nell* and *Mrs Parker and the Vicious Circle* (s) (861)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (831836)
7.50 You Don't Know Me But... A person in the news receives unsolicited advice (899294)
8.00 Gardens Without Borders: Italy. (Teletext) (s) (8774)
8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (4381)
9.00 Ellen. American sitcom starring Ellen DeGeneres. (Teletext) (s) (4749)
9.30 Rising Damp. Classic boarding house comedy starring Leonard Rossiter as a seedy landlord and Frances de la Tour as the subject of his lust (r). (Teletext) (62364)
10.00 Roseanne. Wisecracking comedy. (Teletext) (s) (62923)
10.30 The Jack Dee Show. The comedian is joined by the singer Marcella Detroit, one half of Shakespear's Sister (r). (Teletext) (s) (281861)
11.05 The Word (s) (157749)
12.05am Beavis and Butthead. Irreverent animated music video reviews (s) (4426633)
12.35 FILM: Just a Gigolo (1979) starring David Bowie and Marlene Dietrich. A drama, set in Berlin before the rise of Hitler, about a First World War soldier who, unable to find respectable work, becomes a gigolo. Directed by David Hemmings (935189)
2.35 FILM: One Dangerous Night (1943, b/w) starring Warren William. A B-movie thriller about a crackerman-turned-sleuth investigating a murder of which he is the prime suspect. Directed by Michael Gordon (3277275). Ends at **3.55**

FRIDAY MARCH 10

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (86403) **8.00** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (81403) **8.30** Blockbusters (90774) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (35565) **10.00** Concentration (54519) **10.30** Card Sharks (60710) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (71274) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (94590) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (97316) **1.00** St Elsewhere (42671) **2.00** If Tomorrow Comes (42720) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (5327403) **3.55** The DJ Kat Show (4162571) **5.55** Double Dragon (9692861) **4.30** Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (97569) **5.00** The Cosbillins Log (9045) **6.00** Gamesworld (4229) **6.30** Family Ties (5381) **7.00** Rescue (6854) **7.30** M*A*S*H (1566) **8.00** Walker, Texas Ranger (85132) **10.00** The Captain's Log (86039) **11.00** The Late Show (160316) **11.50** Littlejohn (7531O7) **12.40** Chances (3494492) **1.30am** The New Wilder in Cincinnati (42411) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (9487148)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (1575107) **9.30** Worldwide Report (88326) **10.30** ABC Nightline (80792) **11.00** World News and Business (786794) **1.30pm** CNS Now (51687) **2.30** Parliament Live (29126) **3.30** This Week in the Lords (6087) **4.00** World News and Business (4529O) **5.00** Live at Five (8411497) **6.00** Richard Littlejohn (10471478) **8.00** World News and Business (14768) **9.30** Out Sargeon Trial Live (8411479) **12.30am** CNS News (74909) **1.30** Target (86469) **2.30** Parliament Replay (78403) **3.30** This Week in the Lords (18898) **4.30** CNS News (57140) **5.30** ABC News (43964)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1425107) **10.00 The Viking Queen** (1967) Intrepid beheaded by a centurion and wields woman (21132) **12.00 King's Pirate** (1967) Swashbuckler with Doug Mc Clure (56323) **2.00pm Cold Turkey** (1071) Dick Van Dyke organ a small town to give up smoking in order to win a competition (73519) **4.00 Snoopy, Come Home** (1972) Charlie Brown and the gang (3731030) **5.35 Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** (1968) Dick Van Dyke stars as an eccentric inventor who builds an amazing car (10326478) **8.00 Made in America** (1993) Whoopi Goldberg discovers the child is the daughter of sperm donor Ted Danson (893200) **10.00 Joshua Tree** (1993) Innocent Dolph Lundgren escapes from prison in order to catch the real villain (932958) **11.45 Death Ring** (1991) Psychiatric coach Mike Norris kidnapped by a sadistic millionaire (380616) **1.15am Lush Life** (1993). Starring Jeff Goldblum and Forest Whitaker as jazz musicians (5476533) **3.00 Shitty Two Hats** (1973) Scottish outlaw Gregory Peck goes on the run after holding up a bank (84463) **4.30 The Wing Queen** (1967) As 10am (52895)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Man of the West (1958) Reformed outlaw Gary Cooper rejoins his old gang to prevent bloodshed (55107) **8.00 The Apartment** (1960) Humble Jack Lemmon fails for Shirley Maclaine (40899584) **10.05-12.20 The Thing** (1982). Kurt Russell and his Antarctic team are attacked by an alien (849774)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am This Earth Is Mine (1959) Melodrama set on a Napa Valley vineyard in the 1930s (83311288) **8.05 The Hunchback of Notre Dame** (1956) Animation version (1599213) **9.00 Cobra Woman** (1944) Khach classic (2287685) **10.15 The Gun Runners** (1958) Audie Murphy smuggles arms into Cuba (4005986) **11.40 Branded** (1950). Crooks set up Alan Ladd to inherit a dead man's ranch (7503749) **1.30pm Stage Struck** (1957) Actress Susan Strasberg rises through the ranks to play on Broadway (88362824) **2.55 The Blender Three** (1965) Samaritan Sidney Poitier resigns Anne Bancroft's will to make (83973304) **4.40 The Hunchback of Notre Dame** (1956) As 8.05am (1448636) **5.50 Spaceballs** (1987) Rick Moranis and John Candy star in Mel Brooks's Star Wars spoof (27403981) **7.30 The Movie Show** (6313) **8.00 Twilight Zone: Rod Serling's Lost Classics** (1993). Two classic episodes (73737045) **9.40 US Top Ten** (802881) **10.00 Full Metal Jacket** (1987) New marine Matthew Modine endures the horrors of the Vietnam War (60126) **12.00 Dangerous Touch** (1993) Erotic thriller (111627) **1.45am Payoff** (1991) Keith Carradine punishes the Mafia for killing his parents (569881) **3.35 Those Bedroom Eyes** (1992) A distraught widower falls for psychotic stranger (27340091)

EUROSPORT

7.00am Soccer News (4884923) **7.15** WWF Action Zone (850107) **8.15** Soccer News (2807859) **8.30** Transworld Sport (95381) **9.30** Aerobics (81381) **10.00** Opposite Lock — International Motorsport (64046) **12.00** Aerobics (29081) **12.30pm** US PGA Seniors Golf (56666) **2.30** Andy Gray's Bootroom (643O0) **3.30** World of Rugby Union (6464) **4.00** ATP Tennis (8010) **4.30** Transworld Sport (99010) **5.30** World Soccer (1774) **6.00** Soccer Weekend (83316) **7.00** Schoolboy Football: Victory Shield, live (36871) **9.00** Ringside Boxing (76569) **11.00** Soccer Weekend (32855) **12.00** World Soccer (991659) **12.30-2.30am** Schoolboy Football (40508)

SKY SPORTS 1

6.00am Max Out (4953519) **8.30** NBA Action (4954571) **9.00** ATP Tennis Magazine (7103300) **7.30** Snowboard Tour (4950855) **9.00** ATP Tennis (1857655) **11.00** Athlete World Sport Special (4946519) **11.30-12.00** Freestyle Skiing (44981128)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Tennis (20010) **8.00** Snowboarding (45942) **8.30** Live Athletics (24380390) **1.00pm** International Motorsports Report (55720) **2.00** Live Figure Skating (7612944) **5.00** Live Athletics (29519) **6.30** Eurosport News (1107) **7.00** Live Figure Skating (2025749) **9.00** Athletics (81010) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (84237)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4320836) **12.30pm** Zoo Life With Jack Hanna (1619960) **1.00** Ski Pierced (5016045) **1.30** Cook Italian (1182051) **2.00** Great Escapes (7105584) **2.30** Round Trip — Los Angeles (4045590) **3.00** American Vacation (42598836) **4.00** Zoo Life (4969126) **5.00** Great Escapes (7190836) **5.30-6.00** Cook Italian (4950478)

LIFESTYLE

9.00am A Brush with Ashley (2100852) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (8328769) **10.00** Talking Heads (2161128) **10.30** Only Human (97832294) **11.15** Draw with Don (95516519) **11.30** Life is for Living (4913251) **12.00** The Buzz (2293316) **12.30pm** Being There (8325864) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (88735O0) **1.30** A Brush with Ashley (8321855) **2.00** Parents Talking (2375045) **2.30** Discovering Psychology (1299323) **3.00** House Style (2281652) **3.30-4.00** Acorn (12607758)

THE COMPUTER CHANNEL

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8787749) **7.30** Neighbours (8799584) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2282697) **8.30** EastEnders (2291958) **9.00** The Bill (2102010) **9.30** Mr Creatures Great And Small (5121294) **10.30** Casualty (13629987) **11.30** Terry and June (8618669) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2296774) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8324942) **1.00** EastEnders (8779720) **1.30** The Bill (8328213) **2.00** Dear John (8577403) **2.30** Just Good Friends (1250381) **3.00** Knots Landing (4018805) **4.00** Dallas (8192190) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8085774) **5.30** Dick Emery (8860854) **6.00** Hi-De-Hi (4151403) **6.30** EastEnders (1348590) **7.00** Dear John (2388619) **7.30** Father, Dear Father (1344774) **8.00** The Dawson Watch (2301088) **8.30** Cat's Fresh Fields (2376774) **9.00** Casualty (9073132) **10.00** The Bill (2296403) **10.30** Miami Vice (5286746) **11.30** Top of the Pops (94459839) **12.10am** Dr Who (5517701) **12.40** FILM: Sound of Love (1976): Two deaf people find love (18919275) **2.05-3.00** Shopping at Night (1407121)

THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (8256923) **6.55** Garfield and Friends(7791497) **7.30** Tale De Cat (8892558) **7.55** Dagrasil Junior High (9335710) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4571584) **8.48** Casper and Friends (1920587) **9.00** Sesame Street (167419) **10.00** The Dr.dtoe Time (18213) **11.00** Garfield and Friends (83229) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (27215) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (61518) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (85782813) **1.48** Betsy Foiles (83783769) **2.00** Barney and Friends (2316) **2.30** Bazar (9959) **3.00** Casper and Friends (1073132) **3.18** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure (9883004) **5.05** Some Ins Hedgehog (8955871) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1508885) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (6294)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickatwat (4882585) **7.15** Pee Wee's Playhouse (9881107) **7.45** Rugrats (897476) **8.15** Doug (2167710) **8.45** Nickatwat (8880132) **9.00** Nick Jr (785768) **12.00** Pee Wee's Playhouse (27403) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (70036) **1.00** Snoggings (12720) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (62010) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (6956) **2.30** Galaxy High School (6300) **3.00** Killer Tomatoes (4565) **3.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (7395) **4.00** Doug (65652) **4.30** Rugrats (2836) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (40109) **5.30** The Secret World of Alex Mack (9316) **6.00** Grammy (6229) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (7381)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Earth Tremors (2318372) **5.00** Biography (1465698) **5.55** Only in Hollywood (9281305) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4563768) **7.00** Charlie Bravo (2378881) **7.30** A Traveller's Guide to the Orient (1342316) **8.00** Jurassica (2262361) **8.30** Tons X (2374316) **9.00** Around Whitehall's World (9011774) **10.00** Future Quest (2294045) **10.30** Next Step (2107566) **11.00** Final Flights (1969331) **11.30-12.00** The X-Planes (2138010)

THE BRAVO CHANNEL

12.00 FILM: The Black Tent (1956): Second World War adventure set in the African desert starring Donald Sinden, Anthony Steel and Anne Maria Sandin (2229316) **2.00** The Avengers (2137381) **3.00** The Flat Parol (2285478) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1267294) **4.00** FILM: Take Me High (1973): Cliff Richard comes to the aid of a troubled rhanbrugger joint. With Anthony Andrews and Deborah Watling (2288294) **6.00** It's Gerry Shanding's Show (1253478) **8.30** The Wild Wild West (1580403) **7.30** Saber of London (1268942) **8.00** The Avengers (6982588) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (1868382) **9.30** FILM: Mother, Jugs and Speed (1976): Black comedy about an ambulance crew starring Raquel Welch, Bill Cosby and Larry Hagman (5059774) **11.30-12.00** Drama Classics (2132838)

BRAVO

6.00am Agony Hour (8186584) **7.00** Living (8696842) **8.00** Front Gardens (2920133) **8.30** Rendezvous (1681394) **9.00** All Well and Good (7986766) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7483010) **10.00** Now You See It (8934346) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (6061120) **11.00** The Young And The Restless (7107497) **12.00** A Taste of Wales (6833687) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (46347585) **1.05** Kilroy (8350010) **2.00** Agony Hour (1160586) **3.00** Living (7778720) **3.46** Blazinga and Glamour (8627666) **4.00** Infatuation UK (9300039) **4.30** Crossvis (9399923) **5.00** A Cook's Tour of France (3522638) **5.35** The New Mr And Mrs Show (7202316) **6.05** Susan Powter (8535590) **6.30** Infatuation (9301769) **7.00** Living (9843942) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9926500) **9.00** FILM: Women of Brewster Place (1989): Drama covering several decades in the lives of seven woman living in a tenement (99343046) **10.55** Sneak Scenes: Stargate (8055410) **11.00** Ser Lite (1618720) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1075213)

MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00pm Dangermouse (9328) **6.30** Blade Warriors (4837766) **6.55** All Cued Up (609039) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (6132) **7.30** My Two Dads (7623) **8.00** On Way of the Stars (52010) **9.00** Moonlighting (45774) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (84958) **10.30** GP (77478) **11.00** Lou Grant (85788) **12.00** Rhoda (408177) **12.30am** Big Brother Jake (12548) **1.00** Dangermouse (425112) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (46276) **2.00** Moonlighting (70904) **3.00** Lou Grant (94121) **4.00** Rhoda (10879) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (91237)

CNN/QVC

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (86965) **8.30** The Grind (21838) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (53690) **8.00** VJ Ingo (892107) **11.00** Soul (42861) **12.00** Greatest Hits (5958) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (59391) **3.00** Zig and Zag Show (42511) **3.30** Hit Mix Long Play (1827251) **3.45** Cinematic (5677756) **4.00** News (16816500) **4.15** 9 from 1 (15066213) **4.30** Dial MTV (6552) **5.00** Nine Stop (7185) **7.00** Greatest Hits (45720) **8.00** Most Wanted (86584) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (94587) **10.00** Report (6650I0) **10.15** Cinematic (6605B5) **10.30** News (470687) **10.45** 2 from 1 (3995242) **11.00** Party Zone (11107) **1.00am** Soul (29643) **2.00** The Grind (21985) **2.30-7.00** Night Videos (4577091)

VH-1

7.00am Crewing from the Wreckage (9916316) **9.00** Cafe (9164478) **10.00** Power Breakfast (7703294) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9569030) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3644478) **3.30** Into the Music (6632869) **8.00** Prime Cuts (1630039) **7.00** VH-1 For You (9917316) **8.00** Ten of the Best (5833300) **10.00** Jonathan Ross Presents (4332893) **10.30** Old Grey Whistle Test (4332571) **11.30** Around and Around (9926852) **12.00** The Nightly (9621053) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (8167072) **3.00** Dawn Patrol

MTV EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including **5.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

THE COMEDY CHANNEL

6.00am Persian Dawn (62364749) **7.00** Aslan Morning (80498128) **8.30** Zindagi Ek Safar (75865294) **9.00** Zara Hat Ke (79952774) **9.30** Swar Bhuaheni (81712766) **10.00** Antakshri (49174852) **10.30** Amar Prem Bekal (88424740) **11.30** Kashwa Aur Khargosh (34370381) **12.00** Farmaish (81808516) **1.00pm** Hindi FILM: Teri Kasam (29051942) **4.00** Pakistani Serial: Dasht (34486132) **5.00** Film Dawaraa (92439403) **8.30** Zee and U (78706687) **6.00** Song Tere Naam Se (78523304) **8.30** Beat Phere (76814652) **7.00** BBC0 (92363039) **7.30** Zabaan Sambhal ke (76810639) **8.00** News (92436887) **8.30** Film Chakker (92341294) **9.00** Hindi FILM: Jeena Teri Gali Main (32283854) **11.00** Aslan Morning (30565140) **1.30** Sight and Sound (16081184)

TNT

Continuous cartoons from 6am to 7pm, then TNT films as below
Theme: The Friday Feature
7.00pm Dragon Seed (1944): Katharine Hepburn and Chinese peasants struggle to survive Japanese rule (11715381)
Theme: Friday Thriller
10.00 The Split (1968): Jim Brown, Diahann Carroll star in this violent thriller about a daring heist at a big football game (24185749)
Theme: Cinéma Français Classique
12.00 Un Revenant (He Who Returned) (1946). A choreographer returns to his home town of Lyon and stirs up old emotions. Starring Louis Jouvet and François Perier (87928879)
Theme: Perry Mason Investigates
1.50am The Case of the Lucky Legs (1935) Warren William investigates the murder of a beauty queen (67470661) **3.15-5.00 The Case of the Black Cat** (1936). An elderly man is murdered after changing his will (24783630)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.25am-10.00 Anglia News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1591838) **1.25** The Young Doctors (77636300) **2.20-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (4517107) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (6948854) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (8125128) **5.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (998300) **10.30** Anglia News (570671) **10.40** Love Call Live (555584) **11.40** Bodies of Evidence (134923) **12.35am** The Hidden Room (4501169) **1.05** The New Music (6731459) **2.05-3.00** The James Whale Show (6866256) **4.00** Cue the Music (36533) **5.00-5.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (88898)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1591838) **1.55** A Country Practice (7785300) **2.20** Wish You Were Here..? (74083181) **2.50** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (7027580) **3.15-3.20** The Cadbury Club (6343300) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6948564) **5.10-5.40** Lyo TV (8125125) **5.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (998300) **10.30** Central News and Weather (570671) **10.40** Central Weekend (8775784) **12.10am-1.05** Burnside (7572769) **4.25** Jobfinder (6229819) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2756948)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1591838) **12.55** Blood and Sand (7488819) **1.25** Home and Away (8729579) **1.50** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (9184979) **2.50-3.20** Wish You Were Here..? (7027580) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6948948) **5.10-5.40** High Road (8125125) **6.25** Gardeners' Delight (8749829) **6.50** Back Up (8743857) **7.00-7.30** Home Tonight - Play Your Cards Right (8749448) **8.30-9.00** The Upper Hand (8749738) **10.00** News at Ten, Weekend Weather (570671) **10.30** Granada Rep. (8149857) **10.35** Wot Crime (1179769) **12.35am** Lyo TV (4501169) **1.05** The James Whale Show (6731459) **2.05** The Chart Show (6845756) **3.00** Nasty Medicine (4297488) **3.55** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8011497) **4.30-5.30** The New Music (31169)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8727575) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (1591838) **1.55** High Road (3689519) **2.20-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (4004656) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (6948584) **5.10-5.40** A country Practice (8125125) **6.30-7.00** HTV News, Cats 10.30 HTV West Headlines and Weather (570671) **10.40** Love and Like (1853898) **12.05am-1.05** Fallen Dreams Investigates (2041237)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (1591838) **2.25-3.20** HTV Wales News (6948584) **5.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (519) **10.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (570671) **10.40** Notorious (53107942) **12.35am-1.05** The Twilight Zone (4801168)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77636300) **2.20-3.10** Murder, She Wrote (3016942) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (8125126) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (276585) **6.30-7.00** Superhumans (519) **10.40** Robson's Place (585584) **11.40** Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (28956107) **2.00am** The James Whale Show (4907S) **3.00** The Big E (3265308) **3.55** Shit (8327614) **4.45** Sportsworld (80296) **5.10-5.30** Profile (7864695)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8732652) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1600584) **12.35-12.50** Sky Store (1150584) **1.55** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (8136590) **2.55-3.20** A Country Practice (7026555) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News; Weather (6948564) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (8125125) **5.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (12887) **10.30** Westcountry News, Weather (570671) **10.40-1.08pm** Murder By Decree (5897979)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Yorkshire Calendar News and Weather / Bradale Naboth North (1581838) **1.55** A Country Practice (77636300) **2.20** Wish You Were Here..? (3016942) **3.10** Help Yourself (6023229) **3.15-3.20** Five Minutes (6942300) **3.25-3.30** Yorkshire Calendar News / Bradale Naboth North (6948584) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (8125126) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (276565) **6.30-7.00** Superchamps (519) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (570671) **10.40** Music and Movies (28109) **11.10** The Hidden Room (935584) **11.40** Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (28956107) **2.00am** The James Whale Show (49072) **3.00** The Big E (3265308) **3.55** Shit (8327614) **4.45** Sportsworld (80296) **5.10-5.30** Profile (7864695)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (504497) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (64958) **9.30** Ygodiam (630136) **12.00pm** Cwis, Cwis, Cwis (Nhow Mountain Goats (81294) **12.30** Siot Mothen (67720) **1.00** Screamin Shoot (88403) **2.00** Beyond The Forest (7691749) **3.40** Papagono (2091381) **5.55** The Pyjamarama (5666039) **4.30** Street By The Bell The College Years (316) **5.00** 5 Pump (2590) **5.30** Countdown (768) **6.00** Newyddion (635478) **6.15** Heno (708220) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (60126) **7.30** Penwythnos Maur (395) **8.00** Colin Gated (8774) **8.30** Newyddion (4381) **9.00** Film: Dessert (164958) **5.45** Out of Order (4395O9) **10.00** Brookside (62923) **10.30** Jack Dee Show (629641) **11.05** The Word (157740) **12.05am** Bones And Buttheod (4426633) **12.35** Just A Gigolo (93510) **2.35** One Dangerous Night (3277275)

It's only a game after all



THERE is no doubt that football is in a sorry state, and the catalogue of problems grows ever longer: the riot in Dublin, the deportation of Chelsea fans from Belgium, the FA inquiries into alleged bribes and alleged financial "bungs", and of course the Eric Cantona affair.

It all seemed so much simpler when you were young, playing for a school team and hoping to get into the national side. And from those teams have emerged some of the best players in Britain, such as Liverpool's Robbie Fowler (right). Sky Sports is giving you the chance to spot the stars of the future with its coverage of the **Victory Shield**, a tournament between schoolboys of the home nations. Tonight (7pm) sees Scotland play hosts to Northern Ireland. Just a pity that the rise in mixed and schoolgirl football doesn't get the same coverage.

Figure Skating (7612944) **5.00** Live Athletics (29519) **6.30** Eurosport News (1107) **7.00** Live Figure Skating (2025749) **9.00** Athletics (81010) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (84237)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4320836) **12.30pm** Zoo Life With Jack Hanna (1619960) **1.00** Ski Pierced (5016045) **1.30** Cook Italian (1182051) **2.00** Great Escapes (7105584) **2.30** Round Trip — Los Angeles (4045590) **3.00** American Vacation (42598836) **4.00** Zoo Life (4969126) **5.00** Great Escapes (7190836) **5.30-6.00** Cook Italian (4950478)

LIFESTYLE

9.00am A Brush with Ashley (2100852) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (8328769) **10.00** Talking Heads (2161128) **10.30** Only Human (97832294) **11.15** Draw with Don (95516519) **11.30** Life is for Living (4913251) **12.00** The Buzz (2293316) **12.30pm** Being There (8325864) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (88735O0) **1.30** A Brush with Ashley (8321855) **2.00** Parents Talking (2375045) **2.30** Discovering Psychology (1299323) **3.00** House Style (2281652) **3.30-4.00** Acorn (12607758)

THE COMPUTER CHANNEL

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8787749) **7.30** Neighbours (8799584) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2282697) **8.30** EastEnders (2291958) **9.00** The Bill (2102010) **9.30** Mr Creatures Great And Small (5121294) **10.30** Casualty (13629987) **11.30** Terry and June (8618669) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2296774) **12.30pm** Neighbours (8324942) **1.00** EastEnders (8779720) **1.30** The Bill (8328213) **2.00** Dear John (8577403) **2.30** Just Good Friends (1250381) **3.00** Knots Landing (4018805) **4.00** Dallas (8192190) **5.00** Every Second Counts (8085774) **5.30** Dick Emery (8860854) **6.00** Hi-De-Hi (4151403) **6.30** EastEnders (1348590) **7.00** Dear John (2388619) **7.30** Father, Dear Father (1344774) **8.00** The Dawson Watch (2301088) **8.30** Cat's Fresh Fields (2376774) **9.00** Casualty (9073132) **10.00** The Bill (2296403) **10.30** Miami Vice (5286746) **11.30** Top of the Pops (94459839) **12.10am** Dr Who (5517701) **12.40** FILM: Sound of Love (1976): Two deaf people find love (18919275) **2.05-3.00** Shopping at Night (1407121)

THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (8256923) **6.55** Garfield and Friends(7791497) **7.30** Tale De Cat (8892558) **7.55** Dagrasil Junior High (9335710) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4571584) **8.48** Casper and Friends (1920587) **9.00** Sesame Street (167419) **10.00** The Dr.dtoe Time (18213) **11.00** Garfield and Friends (83229) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (27215) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (61518) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (85782813) **1.48** Betsy Foiles (83783769) **2.00** Barney and Friends (2316) **2.30** Bazar (9959) **3.00** Casper and Friends (1073132) **3.18** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure (9883004) **5.05** Some Ins Hedgehog (8955871) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1508885) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (6294)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickatwat (4882585) **7.15** Pee Wee's Playhouse (9881107) **7.45** Rugrats (897476) **8.15** Doug (2167710) **8.45** Nickatwat (8880132) **9.00** Nick Jr (785768) **12.00** Pee Wee's Playhouse (27403) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (70036) **1.00** Snoggings (12720) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (62010) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (6956) **2.30** Galaxy High School (6300) **3.00** Killer Tomatoes (4565) **3.30** Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (7395) **4.00** Doug (65652) **4.30** Rugrats (2836) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (40109) **5.30** The Secret World of Alex Mack (9316) **6.00** Grammy (6229) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (7381)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Earth Tremors (2318372) **5.00** Biography (1465698) **5.55** Only in Hollywood (9281305) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4563768) **7.00** Charlie Bravo (2378881) **7.30** A Traveller's Guide to the Orient (1342316) **8.00** Jurassica (2262361) **8.30** Tons X (2374316) **9.00** Around Whitehall's World (9011774) **10.00** Future Quest (2294045) **10.30** Next Step (2107566) **11.00** Final Flights (1969331) **11.30-12.00** The X-Planes (2138010)

THE BRAVO CHANNEL

12.00 FILM: The Black Tent (1956): Second World War adventure set in the African desert starring Donald Sinden, Anthony Steel and Anne Maria Sandin (2229316) **2.00** The Avengers (2137381) **3.00** The Flat Parol (2285478) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1267294) **4.00** FILM: Take Me High (1973): Cliff Richard comes to the aid of a troubled rhanbrugger joint. With Anthony Andrews and Deborah Watling (2288294) **6.00** It's Gerry Shanding's Show (1253478) **8.30** The Wild Wild West (1580403) **7.30** Saber of London (1268942) **8.00** The Avengers (6982588) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (1868382) **9.30** FILM: Mother, Jugs and Speed (1976): Black comedy about an ambulance crew starring Raquel Welch, Bill Cosby and Larry Hagman (5059774) **11.30-12.00** Drama Classics (2132838)

BRAVO

6.00am Agony Hour (8186584) **7.00** Living (8696842) **8.00** Front Gardens (2920133) **8.30** Rendezvous (1681394) **9.00** All Well and Good (7986766) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7483010) **10.00** Now You See It (8934346) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (6061120) **11.00** The Young And The Restless (7107497) **12.00** A Taste of Wales (6833687) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (46347585) **1.05** Kilroy (8350010) **2.00** Agony Hour (1160586) **3.00** Living (7778720) **3.46** Blazinga and Glamour (8627666) **4.00** Infatuation UK (9300039) **4.30** Crossvis (9399923) **5.00** A Cook's Tour of France (3522638) **5.35** The New Mr And Mrs Show (7202316) **6.05** Susan Powter (8535590) **6.30** Infatuation (9301769) **7.00** Living (9843942) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (9926500) **9.00** FILM: Women of Brewster Place (1989): Drama covering several decades in the lives of seven woman living in a tenement (99343046) **10.55** Sneak Scenes: Stargate (8055410) **11.00** Ser Lite (1618720) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1075213)

MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00pm Dangermouse (9328) **6.30** Blade Warriors (4837766) **6.55** All Cued Up (609039) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (6132) **7.30** My Two Dads (7623) **8.00** On Way of the Stars (52010) **9.00** Moonlighting (45774) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (84958) **10.30** GP (77478) **11.00** Lou Grant (85788) **12.00** Rhoda (408177) **12.30am** Big Brother Jake (12548) **1.00** Dangermouse (425112) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (46276) **2.00** Moonlighting (70904) **3.00** Lou Grant (94121) **4.00** Rhoda (10879) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (91237)

CNN/QVC

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (86965) **8.30** The Grind (21838) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (53690) **8.00** VJ Ingo (892107) **11.00** Soul (42861) **12.00** Greatest Hits (5958) **1.00pm** Afternoon Mix (59391) **3.00** Zig and Zag Show (42511) **3.30** Hit Mix Long Play (1827251) **3.45** Cinematic (5677756) **4.00** News (16816500) **4.15** 9 from 1 (15066213) **4.30** Dial MTV (6552) **5.00** Nine Stop (7185) **7.00** Greatest Hits (45720) **8.00** Most Wanted (86584) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (94587) **10.00** Report (6650I0) **10.15** Cinematic (6605B5) **10.30** News (470687) **10.45** 2 from 1 (3995242) **11.00** Party Zone (11107) **1.00am** Soul (29643) **2.00** The Grind (21985) **2.30-7.00** Night Videos (4577091)

VH-1

7.00am Crewing from the Wreckage (9916316) **9.00** Cafe (9164478) **10.00** Power Breakfast (7703294) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9569030) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3644478) **3.30** Into the Music (6632869) **8.00** Prime Cuts (1630039) **7.00** VH-1 For You (9917316) **8.00** Ten of the Best (5833300) **10.00** Jonathan Ross Presents (4332893) **10.30** Old Grey Whistle Test (4332571) **11.30** Around and Around (9926852) **12.00** The Nightly (9621053) **2.00am** Ten of the Best (8167072) **3.00** Dawn Patrol

MTV EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including **5.00pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

THE COMEDY CHANNEL

6.00am Persian Dawn (62364749) **7.00** Aslan Morning (80498128) **8.30** Zindagi Ek Safar (75865294) **9.00** Zara Hat Ke (79952774) **9.30** Swar Bhuaheni (81712766) **10.00** Antakshri (49174852) **10.30** Amar Prem Bekal (88424740) **11.30** Kashwa Aur Khargosh (34370381) **12.00** Farmaish (81808516) **1.00pm** Hindi FILM: Teri Kasam (29051942) **4.00** Pakistani Serial: Dasht (34486132) **5.00** Film Dawaraa (92439403) **8.30** Zee and U (78706687) **6.00** Song Tere Naam Se (78523304) **8.30** Beat Phere (76814652) **7.00** BBC0 (92363039) **7.30** Zabaan Sambhal ke (76810639) **8.00** News (92436887) **8.30** Film Chakker (92341294) **9.00** Hindi FILM: Jeena Teri Gali Main (32283854) **11.00** Aslan Morning (30565140) **1.30** Sight and Sound (16081184)

TNT

Continuous cartoons from 6am to 7pm, then TNT films as below
Theme: The Friday Feature
7.00pm Dragon Seed (1944): Katharine Hepburn and Chinese peasants struggle to survive Japanese rule (11715381)
Theme: Friday Thriller
10.00 The Split (1968): Jim Brown, Diahann Carroll star in this violent thriller about a daring heist at a big football game (24185749)
Theme: Cinéma Français Classique
12.00 Un Revenant (He Who Returned) (1946). A choreographer returns to the home town of Lyon and stirs up old emotions. Starring Louis Jouvet and François Perier (87928879)
Theme: Perry Mason Investigates
1.50am The Case of the Lucky Legs (1935) Warren William investigates the murder of a beauty queen (67470661) **3.15-5.00 The Case of the Black Cat** (1936). An elderly man is murdered after changing his will (24783630)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.25am-10.00 Anglia News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1591838) **1.25** The Young Doctors (77636300) **2.20-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (4517107) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News (6948854) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (8125128) **5.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (998300) **10.30** Anglia News (570671) **10.40** Love Call Live (555584) **11.40** Bodies of Evidence (134923) **12.35am** The Hidden Room (4501169) **1.05** The New Music (6731459) **2.05-3.00** The James Whale Show (6866256) **4.00** Cue the Music (36533) **5.00-5.30** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (88898)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1591838) **1.55** A Country Practice (7785300) **2.20** Wish You Were Here..? (74083181) **2.50** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (7027580) **3.15-3.20** The Cadbury Club (6343300) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6948564) **5.10-5.40** Lyo TV (8125125) **5.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (998300) **10.30** Central News and Weather (570671) **10.40** Central Weekend (8775784) **12.10am-1.05** Burnside (7572769) **4.25** Jobfinder (6229819) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2756948)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8732652) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1591838) **12.55** Blood and Sand (7488819) **1.25** Home and Away (8729579) **1.50** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (9184979) **2.50-3.20** Wish You Were Here..? (7027580) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (6948948

FILMS ON TELEVISION

Continued from previous page

SUNDAY

MARCH 5

☐ **Lifeboat** (1944, The Movie Channel, 6.55am, 96 mins). Although Alfred Hitchcock cannot always transcend the strictures of his single cramped set (a mountain he gave himself to climb), he still switches on the suspense with plenty of power, and coaxes a mesmerising star-turn from Tallulah Bankhead, in her one major role. A tale of tension among survivors of a U-boat attack.

☐ **Casablanca** (1942, BBC2, 2pm, 100 mins). Had T-shirts been around 50 years ago, much of the film's now-legendary dialogue would have started appearing on cotton. Albeit a slice of intense wartime nostalgia, the film is still shot through with electricity because the dialogue has a real tang, likewise the presence of Humphrey Bogart as cynical Rick. All the key elements, dialogue, cast, period atmospherics and music lock firmly into place to create many people's best film of all time.

☐ **Fantastic Voyage** (1966, BBC1, 2.50pm, 100 mins). See pick of the week, page 7.

☐ **Orlando** (1992, Channel 4, 10pm, 100 mins). Sally Potter's extremely non-British visual succulence goes hand-in-hand with a density of text, which nonetheless comments on English history, sexuality and class in a light, dancing manner. Tilda Swinton has a chameleon-like ability to grab the soul of each age, as she moves through 400 years from Elizabethan to modern, first as a man, then as a woman. Searching, funny and packed with goodies. An exciting *adaptation of Virginia Woolf.*

☐ **Bram Stoker's Dracula** (1992, Sky Movies, 10pm, 122 mins). The title is a bold sign that director Francis Ford Coppola has returned to source, and thus lit up his film with a palpable, raging eroticism. A transfixing visual feast which sometimes loses its narrative grip, this also has a splendidly unleashed performance by Gary Oldman, who, as Count Dracula, plays him with the right degree of sadness and menace, and, despite his bouffant hair-do and long finger nails, is never tempted by caricature. Anthony Hopkins, as Van Helsing, is ironed out into one dimension, while Keanu Reeves *utters his lines in the manner of the* terminally bland. He thus unbalances the otherwise surging drama.

☐ **American Gigolo** (1980, BBC2, 11.30pm, 120 mins). Perhaps the BBC stalwart who compiled the "100 Best" season ran out of good films at 99. Or perhaps some corporation pen pusher, resentful of the iron grip of John Birt, slid this in to be subversive. Still, even if passionate themes and an aloof style never quite mesh, nor achieve irony, this is at least a stylish plod through American spiritual decay, with Richard Gere's soul-less gigolo in the frame for murder.

☐ **Glengarry Glen Ross** (1992, Sky Movies, 2.15am, 97 mins). David *Mamet's hypnotically dark screen*play folds seamlessly into James Foley's direction, both being able to build static sequences without ever becoming inert, though the action rarely moves outside the real-estate office. Foley's prowling camera unravels the four estate agents who inhabit the moral sewer of modern-day America, a favourite Mamet theme. The exhilarating ensemble acting is all down to Jack Lemmon (the hanging loser), Alan Arkin (who avoids reality), Ed Harris (frightened but keen), and Al Pacino (an arrogant tough-talker). Both as a *tale of vulnerable souls* and a metaphor for the state of the nation, this is an American great.

MONDAY

MARCH 6

☐ **To Catch a Yeti** (1993, The Movie Channel, 8am, 4pm, 88 mins). Clownish rock singer Meat Loaf, whose rock 'n' roll furnace removes your hearing for long stretches, brings his burly swagger to this attractively daft children's comedy. Mr Loaf exhibits the right kind of cartoon appeal as gamehunter Big Jack Grisly, who, *with his idiot* side-kick, pursues the Abominable Snowman. Being, conveniently, only the size of a teddy bear, the snowman hides out in a rucksack and so ends up in New York.

☐ **The Rose and the Jackel** (1990, BBC2, 2.15pm, 95 mins). Even though Christopher Reeve works across a fairly narrow range, this is quite a distinctive spin on American history, with our own Jack Gold skilfully employing the conflict of duty and passion as a key *dramatic device. Reeve is Allan* Pinkerton, the head of the Secret Service who, during the Civil War, falls for a lady he's investigating.

☐ **The Wooden Horse** (1950, BBC2, 6pm, 100 mins). Solidly crafted thrills leave room for humanity and even tears as British PoWs tunnel their way to freedom from under the legendary vaulting horse. The suspense is pumped up and held back at just the right moments.

☐ **Missing** (1982, Sky Movies Gold, 10pm, 117 mins). *Costa*-Gavras, who won an Oscar for his screenplay, employs an inquisitive, moving camera and unsettling night-time shots to depict a frightened society coming apart at high speed. The film is based on the Chilean coup of 1973, and on the true tale of an American father's search for this missing son. The thuggish stone-walling of the American representatives adds to an already driving drama, and Jack Lemmon, as the vexed father, makes a memorably intense journey from close-minded patriot to a man changed by the more complex reality.

☐ **An Angel at my Table** (1990, *Channel 4, 10.55pm, 175 mins). See* panel, page 9.

☐ **Patrick** (1978, BBC1, 11.35pm, 110 mins). Aside from one startling sequence and a clutch of good ideas (all of them under-expressed), this replaces drama with lengthy telephone conversations and views excitement as hospital staff who shout without reason. Just when the film starts to bite, a sizeable production flaw chews up the script. It's about a comatose killer with telekinetic powers.

☐ **A Private Matter** (1993, Sky Movies, 1.45am, 91 mins). Sweeping drama sits comfortably alongside private, personal concerns in this searing warning against the dangers of thalidomide. Based closely on real life, this stars Sissy Spacek as Sherri Finkbine; having taken thalidomide, she realises her fifth child may be born without limbs, opts for abortion and so clashes with the right-to-lifers. Issues never become a thick, clumsy layer on their own but are neatly written into fully-rounded characters. The best of these is Spacek herself, *who can fix your gaze even* during moments of silence.

☐ **Forget-Me-Not** (1936, Channel 4, 1.30am, 75 mins). With singing instead of a real dramatic spark, providing the chief source of life, this standard musical romance was really a showy vehicle for celebrated tenor Beniamino Gigli. He's a widowed singer, she's a stenographer wrestling with a recent break-up.

TUESDAY

MARCH 7

☐ *Giant* (1956, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm, 201 mins). See pick of the week, page 7.

☐ **Lethal Weapon 3** (1992, The Movie Channel, 9.35pm, 113 mins). Last play. Driven by the sheer weight of incident, cartoon-style, which distracts from rampant implausibility and the job-lot of clichés, this properly lets special effects serve the narrative. Director Richard Donner, gleefully embracing parody, once again places his buddy-buddy cops at the centre of a *familiar police world of infinite* wisecracking and half-eaten doughnuts. As before, it is the combination of Mel Gibson's foolish, flashy heroics and Danny Glover's pension-centred common sense that saves Los Angeles for mankind and *Lethal Weapon 4.*

☐ **Close My Eyes** (1991, Channel 4, 10pm, 120 mins). Seldom possessed of the feeling it so badly needs, this rarely rises above its clutter of symbols and metaphors in its trawl through contemporary moral decay, British-style. Occasionally all the elements, and the three main performances, are cemented together as the film catches fire. Written and directed by Stephen *Poliakoff, this stars Saskia Reeves* and Clive Owen as an incestuous brother and sister, and Alan Rickman as her husband. Gritty city streets are dovetailed with lush English greenery, the latter representing the attractive, deceptive surface of much English life.

☐ **Crossplot** (1969, BBC1, 11.10pm, 95 mins). Sometimes racing across the screen in an almost frivolous fashion, other times buckling under an excessive amount of plot, this London-based spy yarn involves ad *man Roger Moore and his cosmet*ics campaign star Claudie Lange, who stands next to a murdered photographer on Westminster Bridge. Naturally, his crossword puzzle propels the entire film. Decent use of predictable London locations, with Moore himself being agreeably smooth.

☐ **Bugsy** (1991, The Movie Channel, 11.35pm, 135 mins). Never just depending on whitewall tyres, rasping dialogue and zoot suits, director Barry Levinson, who proved equally *perceptive with both Diner and* Tin Men, allows style and substance to flow happily in unison. Warren Beatty, meanwhile, as gangster Bugsy Siegel, the single-minded dreamer who built Las Vegas, for once digs deep. Beefy support from Harvey Keitel, Ben Kingsley and Annette Bening, whose romance with Beatty, however, never once shakes the screen.

☐ **Jumpin' at the Boncyard** (1991, The Movie Channel, 3.25am, 102 mins). An ugly howl at the hopelessness of modern America's grim urban corners, this is a bleak, but supercharged, excursion through the lives of two unsavoury brothers, one hooked on drugs, the other on violence. Though suffocating and unrelieved throughout, it is graced with sturdy, suggestive acting from Alexis Arquette and Tim Roth, who are the very embodiment of cracked, collapsing street life in the Bronx. Roth, in particular, performs with such visceral power that you almost ignore he's acting at all.

ROMANTIC DRAMA OF THE WEEK

War love games

Why are the British soldiers shown at the start of **The Life And Death Of Colonel Blimp** (today, Saturday, BBC2, 2pm) *riding in American trucks?* Simple. Because the War Office refused to co-operate, an instruction from the highest level: the Prime Minister himself. In fact, Churchill did his utmost to stop the film being made at all. Had he succeeded he would have deprived the British cinema of one of its richest works. Michael Powell and Emeric *Pressburger, the writing, producing and directing team who called* themselves the Archers, were not deflected by the wrath on high, and it seems, in any case, that the purport of the film was misunderstood. (Ian Christie recently edited the screenplay for Faber and Faber, giving a full account of the problems of gestation.)

The *Evening Standard's* political cartoonist, David Low, had created a character called Colonel Blimp, a pompous, self-important brasshat, who represented an implacable insistence on tradition, the mentality of fighting the Second World War with the methodology of the First. In Powell and Pressburger's first Technicolor film, Major-General Clive Candy VC (Roger Livesey) is, apart from his towelled appearance in a Turkish bath, entirely unlike Low's Blimp. Apart from his inter-war hobby of shooting endangered animals, he is a supremely decent upper-crust figure, a hero of the Boer War and a



Anton Walbrook and Deborah Kerr exchange lovers' glances

good commander in the Great War. By 1940 he finds it hard to accept that his day is done. Following a lead from his manservant (John Laurie), he diverts his energies into the Home Guard. Then Spud Wilson (James McKechnie), a young subaltern in the regulars and boyfriend of Candy's driver, Johnny (Deborah Kerr), trounces him in an exercise in a surprise strike.

A flashback to 1902 reveals Candy obliged to fight a duel in Berlin for insulting the German army. The officer chosen as his opponent is Oberleutenant Theodor Kretschmar-Schuldorff (Anton Walbrook). The preparations are shown in detail, but not the actual duel. They recover in the nursing home from their sabre wounds and become great friends, both falling for an English rose, Edith (Kerr again). Theo wins her and Clive returns to London, never forgetting her. During the First World War he meets an English nurse in France, and marries her after the Armistice. Her name is Barbara and she looks like the Edith of years earlier (the second of Kerr's three *roles). He meets Theo again, a prisoner of war about to be repatriated,* bitter that Germany has been laid low by the Versailles treaty. The next time they meet is in 1939. Theo is a refugee from the Nazis, and is saved from internment by his friend.

Honour, friendship and loyalty transcend politics and war and suggest to Candy a purpose for winning. Good Germans in films were regarded as unacceptable in wartime, but Powell and Pressburger in 1943 were looking to the peace ahead, directing sympathy towards their sentimental old buffer. Given the climate of the time it is one of the most romantic films in the whole canon of British cinema.

RICHARD SCOTT

THURSDAY MARCH 9

CHOICE: Fright night; Mountbatten unveiled

Supernatural thrills and deadly chills

Hardly have the final credits rolled on BBC1's *Ghosts* than the rival channel comes up with **Chiller** (ITV, 9pm), its tales of the supernatural. Five single dramas kick off with *Prophecy*, a story by Peter James in which a group of students, including aspiring archaeologist Frannie (Sophie Ward), hold a seance. It turns out to be a bad idea since over the years most of them suffer premature deaths. The explanation seems to lie in the family of Oliver (Nigel Havers), whose ancestors include a *16th-century satanist murdered by* Cromwell's troops. It only remains for the script to bring Frannie and Oliver together. Thanks to one of the many extraordinary coincidences on which the story relies, a meeting is duly contrived. Be prepared for twists and shocks.

Lord Louis Mountbatten, according to **Secret Lives: Mountbatten** (Channel 4, 9pm, see feature page 3), an unflattering profile, worked tirelessly to ensure that history gave him a favourable verdict. He even masterminded the details of his *own state funeral and the manipu*lation continued from beyond the grave. Stripping away the veneer, the programme highlights his accident-prone naval career, his culpa*bility for the disastrous Dieppe raid* and the tragic results of his determination to hurry through Indian independence. His unhappy marriage is also laid bare.

Non-anglers who think that the sport consists of long hours on river banks waiting for something to happen will find their prejudices confirmed in **Jobs For the Girls** (BBC1, 9.30pm) as Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson try to get hooked on fishing. They have six weeks in which to become good enough to lead opposing teams in a freshwa*ter and deep-sea match off the Isle* of Wight. Jokes centre on the cold and the damp, on not being able to break off to spend a penny and pathetically modest catches. Luckily the show's budget stretches to a *visit to Florida, where in contrast to* a perpetually gloomy England the sun never fails to shine. Other diversions include a visit to trout farmer (and singer) Roger Daltry.

Andy Kershaw puts on *his* fur hat and makes for the most northern point of Europe in **Alien Nations** (Channel 4, 8pm). His search for European minorities takes him to Norway and features the Samis, a nomadic tribe which lives by herding reindeer. There are 40,000 of them in Norway and more in Sweden, Finland and Russia. In the early part of the century Norway tried to Norwegianise them. Now their culture is guaranteed but their land is under threat. Having unsuc*cessfully contested a hydro-electric* project they face the intrusion of multinational companies exploring for diamonds.

PETER WAYMARK



Sophie Ward and Nigel Havers in *Chiller* (ITV, 9pm)

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (38712)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95397170)
9.05 Kilroy. Studio talkshow (s) (5448441)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7833422) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days.** Michelle and Sharon's friendship is under strain (Ceefax) (r) (8840625)
10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Featuring Dr Mark Porter's medical desk and cook Ainsley (s) (7192489)
12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1691880) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (7467793) **12.55 Regional news** (Ceefax) and weather (1500718)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (60402)
1.30 Neighbours. Michael and Danni cherish their last minutes together (Ceefax) (s) (77744373)
1.50 Going for Gold. Quiz show with Henry Kelly (s) (77755489)
2.15 FILM: Where the Lilies Bloom (1974) with Julie Gholson and Harry Dean Stanton. Four siblings try to keep their father's death a secret (460460)
3.50 Jackanory: Whose Story is it Anyway? Improvised story-telling (s) (8024267) **4.00 Robinson Sucroe.** *Love at First Kite* (Ceefax) (9251064) **4.25 Animal Hospital** (s) (4405248) **4.35 Mud** (Ceefax) (s) (1736083)
5.00 Newsround (6006151)
5.10 Blue Peter. The DIY children's show (Ceefax) (s) (8087847)
5.35 Neighbours (Ceefax) (r) (s) (451828) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster (451828) **6.30** *Neighbours* (335) (Ceefax) (r) (s) 10.10 Spotlight (326915) 10.40 Question Time (261712) 11.40 Cagney and Lacey (835731) 12.30 FILM: Roadhouse 66 (1984) (88942)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (593)
6.30 Regional news magazines (335)
7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (6998)
7.30 EastEnders. Michelle and Arthur argue over Geoff's proposal. (Ceefax) (s) (847)
8.00 Animal Hospital Week. Rolf Harris and Steve Knight at the 24-hour RSPCA Harmsworth Hospital for Sick Pets in Holloway, north London. (Ceefax) (s) (5644)
8.30 Crown Prosecutor. Marty has a tough time prosecuting a case of murder by insulin overdose. (Ceefax) (s) (4151)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8199)
9.30 CHOICE **Jobs for the Girls** (Ceefax) (s) (215373)
10.10 Question Time. David Dimbleby and guests answer questions in Leicester (Ceefax) (562793) **Wales:** The Slate *Man's Too Strong* (s) (326915) 10.40 Question Time (Ceefax) (261712) 11.40 Cagney and Lacey (835731) 12.25am FILM: When He's Not a Stranger (1984497) 1.55 News, weather (6847774)
11.10 Cagney and Lacey: Friendly Smoke. Christine relives the torment of being assaulted. *With Sharon Gless and Tyne Daly* (Ceefax) (r) (129422)
12.00 FILM: When He's Not a Stranger (1989). A college student has her life shattered when she is raped by a campus colleague (90229)
1.30am *Weather* (6762039)

BBC 2

6.20 Open University Biology (7314118) **6.45** Caring for Data (2160002) **7.10** Linkage Mechanisms (5450248) **7.35** Earthquakes Seismology at Work (5053373)
8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (Signed) (6727083)
8.15 Westminster On-Line with Andrew Neil (s) (4215606)
9.00 Square One TV (5510828) **9.20** Mathsphere (s) (5590064) **9.40** You and Me (Punjabi with English subtitles) (9292354) **9.45** Come Outside (s) (5671809) **10.00** Playdays (r) (s) (8851731) **10.25** Ghostwriter (s) (8861118) **Northern Ireland:** History
10.55 Watch: Homes across Europe (Ceefax) (s) (4900880) **11.10** Health 2 (s) (6932489) **11.30** *Landmarks: Pakistan and Its People. (Ceefax)* (s) (9321422) **11.50** Mad About Music (s) (4160199) **12.10pm** Short Circuit (5110538)
12.30 Working Lunch Business news (50248) **1.00** Lifeschool (s) (57063809) **1.25** History File. Medieval Realms — The Power of the Church (87750151) **1.45** Storytime (25330199) **2.00** Stoppit and Tidyup (r) (65989199) **2.05** Puppydog Tales (r) (s) (65971170)
2.10 Next with Marti Caine. David Bellamy shares his passion for conservation (s) (74713847)
2.35 From the Edge (Ceefax) (7115793)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (Ceefax) (4333915)
3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather(8022809)
4.00 Today's the Day. Quiz show with Martyn Lewis on events in the news (s) (248)
4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (17489)
5.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show: The Middle Class Drug Problem (s) (701460)
5.40 The World Figure Skating Championships. From Birmingham with commentary by Alan Weeks and Barry Davies (591828)
6.15 Quantum Leap. Sam has to prevent the murder of a priest (Ceefax) (r) (s) (108267)
7.00 Waiting for God (Ceefax) (r) (s) (4538)
7.30 First Sight: Dear Mrs Bottomely South: Southern Eye **Southwest:** Close-up **East:** Mailer of Fact **West:** Close-up West **Midlands:** Midlands Report **North, Northeast, Northwest:** Close-up North **Wales:** First Sight: Sparing the Rod **Northern Ireland:** Sceal Dha Chlaitin (489) 7.35 Country Times (r)
8.00 Life with Fred (Ceefax) (r) (s) (3286) **Northern Ireland:** Gaelscoil
8.30 Top Gear. Jeremy Clarkson tests the new Audi A4. (Ceefax) (s) (2793)
9.00 The Glam Metal Detectives. More comic sketches. (Ceefax) (s) (9441)
9.30 The World Figure Skating Championships. From Birmingham, followed by Video Nation Shorts (29185)
10.30 Newsnight *(Ceefax) (513712)*
11.15 Late Review (s) (475248) **11.55** Weatherview (824880)
12.00 Open View (5385316)
12.05am The Chemistry of Survival (4443300)
12.30 The Record (s) (3925942). Ends at **1.00**
4.30 BBC Select: Developing Family Literacy (66590) followed by **Strathclyde TV — Putting You in the Picture** (39858)
5.30 RCN Nursing Update (46364)

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV *(7806977)*
9.25 Chain Letters with Ted Robbins (s) (3241809) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8838880)
10.00 The Time . . . the Place Members of a studio audience discuss a topical issue With John Stapleton (s) (7963480)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (2652073) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1697084)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2176847)
12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2151538) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57068354)
1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz discusses the issue of gay parenting. (Teletext) (s) (35938847) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74705828)
2.50 Gardeners' Diary. John Ravenscroft plants gladioli while Anthony Hann spring-prunes shrubs (7216002) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (6045441) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6044712)
3.30 The Riddlers (r) (2119731) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (8013151) **3.50 Rupert** (r) (2693557) **4.15** *Mike and Angela* (s) (6495538) **4.40 Fun House** with Pat Sharp. (Teletext) (s) (9090625)
5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (6221354)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (785422)
5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (624828)
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (151)
6.30 London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (731)
7.00 Emmerdale. Jack's jealous rage has disastrous consequences. (Teletext) (1084)
7.30 3-D presented by Julia Somerville. Today's programme takes a look at the British tradition of invention. John Coathupe hit the jackpot when his invention was accepted by a manufacturer, but others feel they are not taken seriously (s) (915)
8.00 The Bill: Flora and Fauna. Hollis's green fingers cause havoc. (Teletext) (3192)
8.30 The Trouble with Mr Bean starring Rowan Atkinson as the embarassing misfit (r) (s) (9947)
9.00 CHOICE **Chiller: Prophecy** (Teletext) (s) (6083)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (39267)
10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (276809)
10.40 Revelations (s) (156668)
11.10 Big City. Paul Ross and Carolyn Marshall take a look at what's on in and around London this week (633170)
11.40 The Powers That Be. The life and times of an American senator and his family on Capitol Hill (162422)
12.15am The Little Picture Show (r) (419300)
1.15 The Beat (r) (s) (415584)
2.15 The Album Show (r) (s) (6887768)
3.10 America's Top Ten *(r) (s) (68165652)*
3.35 Sport AM (r) (8159720)
4.30 Videofashion (r) (60316)
5.00 Vanessa (r) (s) (53584)
5.30 ITN Morning News (98010). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan *(r) (2171118)*
7.00 The Big Breakfast (21373)
9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (49644)
9.30 Schools: Middle English (5661422) **9.45** The New Living Body (5555731) **10.05** Scientific Eye (8845170) **10.27** Geographical Eye Over Africa (6180606) **10.50** Your World (8352267) **11.00** History in Action (6921373) **11.20** Earth — The Home Planet (6535335) **11.40** The German Programme (4159083)
12.00 House To House Political magazine chaired by Maya Even (29880)
12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early learning series The guest is Marilyn Home (98151)
1.30 The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz. Animated adventures (r) (s) (35911170)
1.55 Spacebourne. Images of space provided by Nasa (77756118)
2.15 FILM: Beyond the Forest (1949, b/w) starring Bette Davis, Joseph Cotten and David Brian. Small-town America melodrama about a bitchy doctor's wife who becomes pregnant after an affair with a millionaire. Directed by King Vidor (498118)
3.55 From the Horses Mouth. The last in the series on horse racing focuses on the bookmaker. Narrated by John Hurt (s) (5782267)
4.30 Countdown. Another round of the words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (828)
5.00 Ricki Lake. A studio discussion on the different ways men and women see things. (Teletext) (s) (51885567)
5.50 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons (607151)
6.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy (r). (Teletext) (793)
6.30 Saved by the Bell. Campus comedy. (Teletext) (373)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (988996)
7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (513828)
8.00 CHOICE **Alien Nations.** (Teletext) (s) (8354)
8.30 The Pulse. The last in the medical magazine series, presented by Shahnaz Pakravan. (Teletext) (s) (7489)
9.00 SERIOUS **Secret Lives: Mountbatten.** (Teletext) (s) (4625)
9.00 CHOICE **Chiller: Prophecy** (Teletext) (s) (6083)
10.00 Hearts and Minds. The final episode of the school drama serial starring Christopher Eccleston. (Teletext) (s) (6321847)
11.05 Adult Oprah. The guests are woman who were abused and made pregnant by their fathers. (Teletext) (s) (155847)
11.55 The Obituary Show. A spoof celebratory obituary celebrating the life and career of Norman Wisdom (r) (2250054)
12.25am Dispatches (r). (Teletext) (8885788)
1.15 American Patchwork: Appalachian Journey. The first of a two-part programme about the songs and stories of America, presented by Alan Lomax (r) (7016671)
2.30 Puttin' On the Ritz Animation based on the Fred Astaire song (3383478)
2.35 FILM: The Meanest Man in the World (1943, b/w) starring Jack Benny as a small-town lawyer who receives a rough deal from his prospective father-in-law. Directed by Sidney Lanfield (4207126). Ends at **3.40**

THURSDAY MARCH 9

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (80847) 8.00 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (53489) 8.30 Blockbusters (85489) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (26499) 10.00 Concentration (29625) 10.30 Card Sharks (72996) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (95458) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (63348) 12.30pm Anything But Love (65952) 1.00 St Elsewhere (81847) 2.00 If Tomorrow Comes (26354) 3.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (63597311) 3.50 The DJ Kat Show (42751660) 3.55 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (98324894) 4.30 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (9354) 5.00 Saga of Star Trek (6373) 6.00 Gamesworld (17537) 6.30 Family Ties (1195) 7.00 Roseanne (9002) 7.30 M*A*S*H (1593) 8.00 Manhunter (47112) 9.00 Hunter Suspicion (34398) 10.00 Saga of Star Trek (32335) 11.00 Late Show with David Letterman (781422) 11.50 Littlejohn (453151) 12.40am Chances (94537209) 1.30 The Now WKRP in Cincinnati (45855) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix Long Play (2487768)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (1671335) 9.30 News Extra (76053) 10.30 ABC Nightline (76538) 1.30pm CBS News (39062) 2.30 Parliament Live (73950) 5.05 Richard Littlejohn (19977606) 9.30 OJ Simpson Trial (503422) 12.30am CBS News (56774) 1.30 News Extra (88872) 2.30 Parliament Replay (38313) 4.30 CBS News (31774) 5.30 ABC News (47300)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (1871165) 10.00 The Portrait (1907) Gregory Peck and Lauren Bacall learn to love their artist daughter (10026) 12.00 Author! Author! (1982) Playwright Al Pacino struggles to keep his children in this comedy drama (30577) 2.00pm Mr Billion (1977) Terence Hill has to cross the States in 21 days to inherit a billion dollars (51015) 4.00 Bloomfield (1969) Richard Harris battles terrorism and directs this football drama about a player's final match (7987) 6.00 The Portrait (39098) 7.30 News Week in Review (5151) 8.00 Leap of Faith (1992) Steve Martin stars as a evangelist preacher helped by business manager Debra Winger (45896) 10.00 Boiling Point (1993): Thriller with heroic Wesley Snipes chasing the killer of a policeman (59570052) 1.20am Murder on the Rio Grande (1993): Victoria Principal in a whodunnit-rattling thriller (695881) 2.55 Bitter Moon (1992) Psychological drama from Roman Polanski in which Hugh Grant and Peter Coyote trade sexual concusses (9620328) 3.25 The Murders in the Rue Morgue (1971) Theatre murder cases based on Poe tales and starring Jason Robards (48870132)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm The Enemy Below (1957): An American destroyer hunts a U-Boat Starring Robert Mitchum and Curt Jurgens (11335) 8.00 Separate Tables (1958) Burt Lancaster and Rita Hayworth star (16893) 10.00-12.00 Nothing to Lose 2 — The Beginning (1995): Chuck Norris leads PoWs to safety through the Vietnam jungle (92712)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Mutiny on the Buses (1972). Reg Varney in spin-off from the popular omnibus series (73557) 8.00 Barnum (1986)' Biography of the legendary showman Phineas T Bernum. With Burt Lancaster (15248) 10.00 Wild is the Wind (1957) An Italian sheep farmer in Nevada marries his former wife's sister (55070) 12.00 Tarzan's Desert Mystery (1943). Johnny Weissmuller stars as the jungle king, up against the Nazis (85240835) 1.15pm Goldilocks and the Three Bears' Animation (1292977) 2.10 Seconds (1966): A finance boss is offered another chance at life (738248) 4.00 Barnum (1986). As Sam (1947) 5.00 A Place for Annie (38793) 6.00 Mood Indigo: Mind of a Killer (1992): Thriller about a psychiatrist. With Tim Matheson (73780373) 9.40 Gladiator (1992) Brutal boxing action, starring Cuba Gooding Jr and James Marshall (123165) 11.25 Birds in Paradise II (1993): Erotic drama for adults (84036886) 1.05am Death in Small Doses (1953) A dead businesswoman is found to have traces of arsenic in her blood (8489887) 2.35 Cinderella Liberty (1973): Romantic tale about kindly sailor James Caan (929126) 4.20 Abbott and Costello in the Foreign Legion (1950): Slapstick starring Bud and Lou (917346)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4980151) 7.15 WWF Challenge (568764) 8.15 Ladbrokes Soccer News (2903880) 8.30 National Hot Rods (10731) 9.00 Freestyle Skiing (92593) 9.30 Aerobics Oz Style (35059) 10.00 The Rugby Club (24542) 11.00 Get Your Handicap Down (67002) 11.30 Fish Tales (4211335) 11.45 Sky Sports Classics (4249116) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (21847) 12.30pm NBA Basketball (30198) 2.30 Cricket Confidential (6005002) Rugby Club (78847) 4.00 American Sports Cavalcade (58364) 8.00 WWF Action Zone (4199) 6.00 Soccer News (439847) 8.15 Fish Tales (427002) 8.30 World of Rugby Union (6373) 7.00 Transworld Sport (71880) 8.00 Andy Gray's Boxroom (80585) 8.00 US PGA Seniors (93915) 11.00 Soccer News (171737) 11.15 World of Rugby Union (312354) 11.45 Fish Tales (769977) 12.00 Transworld Sport (240010) 1.00-2.00am Andy Gray's Boxroom (84048)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Equestrianism (57354) 8.30 Figure Skating (25441) 10.00 Dancing (91170) 11.00 Motors (88606) 12.00 Live Freestyle Skiing (44286) 1.00pm Eurofun (85422) 1.30 Tennis (24422) 2.00 Live Figure Skating (422118) 5.00 Live Nordic Skiing (50625) 6.30 Eurosport News (9511) 7.00 Live Figure Skating (123335) 10.00 Wrestling (1602083) 4.30-5.00 California Dreams (9538)

Going in mob handed

KICKING off a seven-part series today, **If Tomorrow Comes** (Sky One, 2pm) concerns the struggle of a young woman to re-build her life after serving a prison sentence for a crime she did not commit.

Based on a best-selling novel by Sidney Sheldon, it stars Liam Neeson, star of Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List*, and Tom Berenger. The story follows Tracy Whitney (Madolyn Smith, right), who is shocked to hear about the death of her widowed mother in New Orleans. But Tracy does not believe her mother committed suicide and goes there to try to find out what happened. And what happened is that her mother was cheated in a property deal by the local mob. So Tracy visits the mob leader's home with a gun — a bad move. After a struggle, Tracy flees, but is arrested and charged with theft and attempted murder.



(59737) 11.00 Golf (74126) 12.00-12.30am Eurosport News (77923)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4426084) 12.30pm Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (1659118) 1.00 Cruising the Globe (9949373) 1.30 Cook Italian (1658489) 2.00 California's Gold (7205712) 2.30 Video Trips — Caribbean (4085118) 3.00 Pastel Paradise — Miami (4969363) 4.00 Travel Guide (4089170) 4.30 Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (4066354) 5.00 Ski Perfect (7296818) 5.30 Cook Italian (4066506) 6.00 Getaway — Australia (4088847) 6.30 Round Trip — Los Angeles (4077159) 7.00 American Vacation (5948268) 8.00 Around The World in 30 Minutes (7292248) 8.30 Travel Guide (7204083) 9.00 Getaway — Australia (4967002) 9.30 Round Trip — Los Angeles (1639564) 10.00 American Vacation (5947557) 11.00 Ski Perfect (4978847) 11.30-12.00 California's Gold (4594354)

LIVING

9.00am Loving (4423977) 9.30 Peyton Place (4429248) 10.00 As the World Turns (4838606) 10.00 Guiding Light (9526793) 11.00-12.00 Another World (9945557)

BBC1

9.00am Tonia Todman's Craft Room (2206860) 9.30 A Taste of Japan (5424998) 10.00 Jimmy's (2245354) 11.30 Only Human (1315357) 11.50 Real Life (1169939) 12.00 Private Lives (2226844) 12.30pm Park High (5428712) 1.00 A Taste of Japan (5891318) 1.30 Tonia Todman's Craft Room (5427083) 2.00 You and Your Cat (9191880) 2.45 Draw with Don (8492480) 3.00 Secret Gardens (2387880) 3.30-4.00 Furniture to Go (1369896)

BBC2

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8883977) 7.30 Neighbours (8885712) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (2226915) 8.30 EastEnders (2224288) 9.00 The Bill (2215538) 9.30 Celebs (5287422) 10.15 Angels (1515915) 11.30 Terry and June (8389557) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (2226002) 12.30pm Neighbours (5420170) 1.00 EastEnders (8882246) 1.30 The Bill (5429441) 2.00 Father, Dear Father (2300731) 2.30 I Didn't Know You Cared (1389809) 3.00 Knots Landing (5786993) 4.00 Dallas (2715278) 5.00 Every Second Counts (9066832) 5.35 Dick Emery (4685642) 6.50 Hi-De-Hi (4184731) 8.30 EastEnders (1388118) 7.00 The Two Ronnies (9084268) 8.00 I Didn't Know You Cared (2397267) 8.30 Terry and June Do Are You (2309002) 9.00 Minder (9005460) 10.00 The Bill (2229731) 10.30 Top of the Pops The 80s (6977335) 11.05 Classic Confidential (6005002) 12.15am FILM The Flying Leathernecks (1951) Fighter plane action in Guadalcanal in 1942. With John Wayne (1307497) 2.05-3.00 Shopping at Night (1447749)

ITV

6.00am Sesame Street (8360151) 6.55 Garfield and Friends (7937625) 7.25 Eek the Cat (6825286) 7.55 Dagosaur Junior High (8281098) 8.25 Super Mario Brothers (7777712) 8.45 Casper and Friends (1983915) 9.00 Sesame Street (99373) 10.00 It's Dobbies Time (67151) 12.00 Garfield and Friends (49257) 12.30pm Eek the Cat (81731) 1.00 Beverly Hills Teens (20267) 1.30 Super Mario Brothers (83864441) 1.45 Baby Follies (83869966) 2.00 Barney and Friends (1980) 2.30 Casper (2026) 3.00 Casper and Friends (1006460) 3.15 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (684998) 3.45 Sonic the Hedgehog (892987) 4.15 Head to Head in 3D

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickelrad (4988793) 7.15 Pee Wee's Playhouse (605441) 7.45 Rugrats (604712) 8.15 Doug (787906) 8.45 Nickelrad (8813408) 9.00 Nick Jr (476064) 12.00 Pee Wee's Playhouse (294858) 12.30pm The Muppet Show (38625) 1.00 Smoggies (958903) 1.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (379996) 2.00 Denver the Last Dinosaur (2354) 2.30 Galaxy High School (8606) 3.00 Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (14659) 3.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (3151) 4.00 Doug (2286) 4.30 Rugrats (1170) 5.00 Clarissa Explains It All (3606) 5.30 Nickelrad (2422) 6.00 Grimmy (9338) 6.30-7.00 Dracula (3915)

THE COMEDY CHANNEL

4.00pm Charlottes (8014560) 5.00 Around Whickers's World — The Ultimate Package (91447083) 5.05 Beyond 2000 (4786996) 7.00 From Monkeys to Apes (23194892) 7.30 An African Ride (1078644) 8.00 History's Mysteries (2395809) 8.30 World of Adventures (2307644) 9.00 Special Forces (26146424) 9.30 Those Who Dare (54182468) 10.00 Blood, Sweat and Glory (80144689) 11.00 Charlie Bravo (3169719) 11.30-12.00 The Global Family (2241538)

UK GOLD

12.00 FILM: Daybreak (1946): A convicted husband takes his death to implicate his rival (8384373) 1.30pm Smothers Brothers (5421809) 2.00 Partyscrimming (2940839) 3.00 Hot Pursuit (2361606) 3.30 Hogan's Heroes (1333462) 4.00 FILM: Can't Stop the Music (1980): Vehicle for the pop group the Village People (2385422) 6.00 Get Smart (1598806) 6.30 FILM: Master of the World (1961): A mad scientist is making a flying ship With Vincent Price (6295488) 8.00 In-Sync-nothing (80980064) 9.00 The Twilight Zone (25190793) 9.30 FILM: Rattle of a Simple Man (1964). Rite of passage for a football supporter (50820021) 11.30-12.00 Hogan's Heroes (2236064)

UK GOLD II

6.00am Agony Hour (8284712) 7.00 Living Magazine (8792170) 8.00 The Treatment (1982511) 8.30 Rendezvous (2332062) 9.00 Go For It (8837444) 9.30 Kate and Allie (5785388) 10.05 Now You See It (2660034) 10.30 The Susan Powter Show (2237408) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (2703825) 12.00 John Tovey (6689115) 12.35pm Rendezvous (46143709) 1.05 Living Magazine (8408358) 2.00 Agony Hour (1153268) 3.00 Living Magazine (7888248) 3.45 Gladrags and Glamour (85372793) 4.00 Intrusion (84062887) 4.30 Crossovers (8495151) 5.00 Masterchef (2628084) 5.35 The New Mr and Mrs Show (7236844) 6.05 The Susan Powter Show (8576118) 6.30 Brookside (84079998) 7.00 Living Magazine (8948170) 8.00 The Young and the Restless (8985118) 9.00 Women of Brewster Place (85376373) 10.00 Sneak Scenes — Stargate (7299298) 11.00 Brookside (17282488) 11.30-12.00 Intrusion UK (1171441)

FILM FOUR EXTRA

5.00am Dangermouse (5460) 5.30 Where I Live (3118) 6.00 The Black Stallion (717002) 6.25 All Cued Up (3676882) 7.00 Twist Punch (2996) 7.30 My Two Dads (55571) 8.00 Snowy River - The McGregor Saga (25538) 9.00 Moonlighting (38002) 10.00 Family Catchphrase (40998) 10.30 GP (59844) 11.00 Lou Grant (80644) 12.00 Rhoda (28213) 12.30pm Big Brother Jake (72680) 1.00 Dangermouse (81478) 1.30 Trivial Pursuit (22213) 2.00 Moonlighting (48652) 3.00 Lou Grant (83687) 4.00 Rhoda (05519) 4.30-5.00 Big Brother Jake (66671)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (52013) 8.30 The Grind (116421) 7.00 Awake on the Wildside (93354) 8.00 VJ Ingo (315489) 11.00 The Soul (28809) 12.00 Greatest Hits (16421) 4.30am Dance Mix (15847) 3.00 Sports (2373) 3.30 Coca Cola Report (80735539) 3.45 Cinematic (75284444) 4.00 News (1021119) 4.15 3 from 1 (1804411) 4.30 Dial (1998) 5.00 Music Non-Stop (82118) 7.00 Greatest Hits (16248) 8.00 Most Wanted (63460) 9.30 Beavis and Butt-Head (70625) 10.00 Coca Cola Report (40735118) 10.15 Cinematic (37541) 10.30 MTV News at Night (2749003) 10.45 3 from 1 (2244088) 11.00 The Pulse (93909) 11.30 The End? (49186) 1.00am Soul (27861) 2.00 The Grind (70497) 2.30-6.00 Night Videos (9572838)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (99486844) 9.00 Café (82800036) 12.00 The Bridge (16303083) 1.00pm Hot 1: Elvis Costello (9941731) 1.30 Ten of the Best (96728282) 2.30 Heart and Soul (37406998) 3.30 Into the Music (73833567) 5.00 Primo Cuts (16362667) 7.00 Fox You (5840644) 8.00 Rock (88209064) 9.00 Ten of the Best (59458218) 10.00 The Bridge (46348880) 11.30 The Nightly (99301702) 2.00am Ten of the Best (55741220) 3.00-7.00 Dawn Patrol (7804128)

CHANNEL 4

Country music from 9am to 7pm, including 5.00pm Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

SCREEN TWO

6.00am Parsian Morning (82460977) 7.00 Asian Morning (50568254) 8.30 Fete Ful (76961422) 9.00 Hindi Movie (84176199) 12.00 Tara (75972538) 12.30pm Chelsevyuha (81812712) 1.00 Pakistani Movie (29187170) 4.00 Top Ten (84994480) 5.00 Teer Kaman (92482731) 5.30 Zee and U (75739915) 6.00 Yeh Hai Bombay Meri Jaan (76736826) 6.30 Janam Dasta (78710860) 7.00 Ver Ver Parwar (92496857) 7.30 Dilag (76719094) 8.00 News (92468915) 8.30 Andaz (92447422) 9.00 India Business Review (53495844) 9.30 Paiyalan Business Update (81892628) 10.00 Zee Horror Show (75975287) 10.30 Sa Re Ga Ma (75992915) 11.00 Haveli (34407489) 11.30 Wah (99276964) 12.00 Asian Morning (30525788) 3.45am Sight and Sound (46732972)

WORKTIME

Continuous cartoons from 9am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme, Rags To Riches
7.00pm Bart's Girl Friend (2443) 7.30 Chicago hoodlum inherits a title (26003064) 8.45 The Unsinkable Molly Brown (1964)' A dissolute orphan marries into high society (52028944) 11.00 A Touch of the Sun (1958). Hotel porter Frankie Howard inherits a fortune (22728480) 12.30am Silver Dollar (1932) Edward G Robinson finds silver but not happiness (49402229) 2.05 The Women In Red (1935): Serious Searwick marries into money (98405619) 3.25-5.00 The Earl of Chicago (1940). As Tom (95576861)

SHOPPING

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 Anglia News (1697064) 1.55 The Young Doctors (77749828) 2.55-3.20 Take the High Road (7216002) 3.25-3.30 Anglia News and Weather (5044712) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6221354) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (485828) 10.30 Anglia News (276809) 10.40 Cover Story (159988) 11.10 Side Effects (136170) 12.05am Married with Children (4447126) 12.30 Dragon Rapide (24107) 2.30 The Best (8549497) 3.25 Cinema, Cinema , Cinema (68160107) 3.50 Quiz Night (82279923) 4.15-5.00 Donahue (8938478)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 Central News and Weather (1697064) 1.55 A Country Practice (77749828) 2.50-3.20 Take the High Road (7216002) 3.25-3.30 Central News (5044712) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6221354) 6.25 Central News and Weather (485557) 6.30-7.00 Life Rap (280170) 10.30-10.40 Central News and Weather (276809) 11.10 Side Effects (856004) 12.10am-12.15 Chefs Calls (4610811) 4.30 Jobfinder (50569009) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7248836)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 Granada News (1697064) 12.55 Shortland Street (7216002) 1.25 Home and Away (8777954) 1.50 Wheel of Fortune (52306788) 2.20 The Main Event Golf (4797869) 2.50-3.20 Emmerdale (6715904) 3.25-3.30 Granada News (5044712) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (6221354) 6.25 Granada Tonight (4874210) 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale (1044) 10.30 Granada News (276809) 10.40 Headliners (144698) 11.40 The Power that Be (5972810) 12.10am Cattle Calls (4610811) 12.15 Jim Tully's Police Show (4610300) 1.15 The Real (4165481) 2.15 The Album Show (4867090) 3.10 America's Top Ten (6816562) 3.35 Sport AM (8157429) 4.30 Jobfinder (42818) 5.00-5.30 Wanderers (53948)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 HTV West News and Weather (1697064) 2.25 Gardening Time (74788869) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (7122083) 3.25-3.30 HTV West Headlines (5044712) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (6221354) 6.25-7.00 HTV News (231) 10.30 HTV West Headlines and Weather (276809) 10.40 Gateways (155688) 11.10 This West This Week (6331170) 11.40-12.15pm Good Health! (162409) 4.30am-5.00 Jobfinder (60410)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 HTV Wales News and Weather (1697064) 2.25-2.30 HTV Wales News (5044712) 6.30-7.00 Wales Today (7311) 7.30-8.00 Wales This Week (115) 10.30 HTV Wales News and Weather (276809) 10.40 Welsh A Wealthy (156868) 11.10 Gems From Roots (633170) 11.40-12.15pm 3-D (162422)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 Meridian News and Weather (1697064) 1.55 A Country Practice (77749828) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (7216002) 3.25-3.30 Meridian News and Weather (5044712) 5.10 Home and Away (6221354) 5.40-6.25 Three Minutes - Crimestoppers (604084) 8.00 Meridian Tonight (485557) 6.30-7.00 Getaways (731) 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (276809) 10.40 Tricks of the Trade (53229118) 12.20am Dragon Rapide (24107) 2.30 The Best (8549497) 3.25 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (68160107) 3.50 Quiz Night (82279923) 4.15 Donahue (89358478) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (53584)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8838880) 12.20pm Westcountry News (1608712) 12.28-12.30 My Story (1605053) 2.25 Wish You Were Here..? (74789828) 3.25-3.30 Westcountry News; Weather (5044712) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6221354) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (53792) 10.30 Westcountry News, Weather (276809) 10.40 Married with Children (156688) 11.10-12.15pm Prisoner Cell Block H (161118) 4.30am-5.00 Jobfinder (60316)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (8838880) 12.20pm-12.30 Calendar Calendar News and Weather / Bristole. Network North (1697064) 1.55 A Country Practice (77749828) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (7216002) 3.25-3.30 Yorkshire Calendar News / Bristole Network North (6044712) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6221354) 5.55 Calendar / Network North (6816562) 6.30-7.00 Coast (731) 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (276809) 10.40 Exit V (508422) 11.25 Prisoner Cell Block H (133626) 12.20am In the Line of Duty (6576872) 2.05 America's Top Ten (7510838) 2.35 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (7538132) 3.05 Jazz Boy (3300590) 4.35-5.30 Jobfinder (3145403)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (213/3) 8.00 You Bet: Your Life (49614) 9.30 Yogabees (8416/5) 12.00pm Hauco To Heaven (PBBB) 12.30 Sea Monkeh (78844) 1.00 Take Two (24460) 1.30 Journeyman (77015) 2.00 Keepers Of The Kingdom Bones Of Contention (89766) 3.00 Z Accuse. The National Trust (7625) 3.30 The Lion (2932703) 4.20 Tales Of A Wise King (4429915) 4.30 The Cosby Show (826) 5.00 5 Pump (7227644) 5.15 5 Pump (60189/3) 6.30 Cwtch down (089) 8.00 Newyddion (335422) 8.15 Hwb (193335) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (9606) 7.30 Hwb (39422) 8.30 Newyddion (7489) 9.00 Y Pentref Y Pen Dwn (4625) 10.00 Heavy Bongo (17609) 10.30 Hosts And Maids (4179441) 11.35 Have My Song (66702)

FILMS ON TELEVISION

WEDNESDAY

MARCH 8

☐ **FDR: The Last Year** (1980, Channel 4, 2.25pm, 95 mins). Part II. Nominated for an Emmy for this role, Jason Robards gives a detailed portrait of Roosevelt in his last year, a man who exudes power even in the smallest moments. These, plus the epic swirl of history, are successfully nailed to a large canvass by British director Anthony Page. Though Robards' fleshy authority is well to the fore, his able sidekicks include Eileen Heckhart, Kim Hunter, Michael Gross and Kathryn Walker.

☐ **The Man in the Moon** (199), Sky Movies, 6pm, 99 mins). Newcomer Reese Witherspoon gives an extremely knowing performance as the 14-year-old girl, hooked on Elvis, who goes giddy over the boy next door. He, in turn, goes dopey over her older sister. Director Robert Mulligan, an old hand at adolescent angst, only swerves from emotional truth when deciding to overheat the text.

☐ **The Three Faces of Eve** (1957, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm, 110 mins). Nunnally Johnson's direction is flat in the extreme, ridiculous when you consider the subject under the lens is schizophrenia. Stanley Cortez, whose camerwork suggests he knows what's needed, is thus held back by his director. However, this is really Joanne Woodward's film. She explodes with credibility in the schizophrenic role, playing bored housewife, come-on flirt and smart-woman-about-town. Narrated by Alistair Cooke.

☐ **Murder C.O.D** (1990, BBCI, 12.30am, 95 mins). All the usual well rehearsed moves decorate this cat-and-mouse cop hunt, with the obsessive police commander constantly out-smarted by the intelligent criminal until, of course, the final reel when the law breaker is nabbed so the film can end. William Devane plays the technological clever-cloggs who eavesdrops on total strangers, in particular a couple where the husband is a wife beater. He shoots the husband and sends his wife a $10,000 invoice, one of the film's few black comic strokes.

☐ **Blood In, Blood Out** (1992, Sky Movies, 12.55am, 173 mins). Many recent American films have covered inner-city ugliness with a thick blanket of cliché. Largely avoiding such suffocation by paying attention to the detail of his characters, Taylor Hackford follows three young lives as they are pushed and pulled by the ad hoc violence of East Los Angeles. His themes and his pumping suspense are well suited to his use of epic scale.

☐ **Cynara** (1932, Channel 4, 2.10am, 75 mins). The plot occasionally ends up in a few odd corners so relies on the effortless playing of Ronald Colman to get it out again. He plays charismatically ingratiating to a tee in the role of a contented, middle-aged barrister who, with his wife away, enjoys the company of a shop girl. When he slips back into the comforts of marriage, she commits suicide. Even if the film clunks a bit, King Vidor's direction is restrained.

☐ **Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry** (1974, Sky Movies, 3.50am, 93 mins). If you want to go out and make a pared down, stunt-driven road movie, with no pretence at trifles like characterisation, then this is the textbook example. indulging in endless manic free-wheeling, Peter Fonda (who drives fast) and Susan George (who giggles a lot) rob a supermarket and smash into so many cars that you'll stay deaf until Christmas. The pleasure of destruction is the best joke of all.

THURSDAY

MARCH 9

☐ **The Portrait** (1993, Sky Movies, 10am, 6pm, 86 mins). Director Arthur Penn, returning to the medium deserted after the golden age of drama was over, brings a cinematic depth to this television film, and is joined in excellence by Gregory Peck and Lauren Bacall, playing an ageing married couple. Peck's real-life daughter, Cecilia, also pushes the right buttons as the couple's artist daughter.

☐ **Seconds** (1966, The Movie Channel, 2.10pm, 106 mins). A striking parable about the shakiness of looking beyond one's self to achieve real change, this is about a frustrated middle-aged financier who is turned into Rock Hudson, a swinging, free-thinking artist. Angular camera work reflects the protagonist's increasing discomfort and, 30 years on, the climax still thrills with its terror.

☐ **Beyond the Forest** (1949, Channel 4, 2.15pm, 100 mins). See pick of the week, page 7.

☐ **Where the Lillies Bloom** (1974, BBCI, 2.15pm, 95 mins). A rich tale of growing up in adversity, with a pointed script and resonant performances to match, this is set in the midst of Appalachian rural poverty. Squeezing out a living as a sharecropper on land he once owned, a widower, on the point of death, asks his four kids not to fritter money away on either doctors or undertakers. When he dies, the children, afraid they will be separated if taken into care, continue as before.

☐ **The Enemy Below** (1957, Sky Movies Gold, 6pm, 98 mins). Robert Mitchum holds many scenes with his bluff, monosyllabic demeanour in a sprightly action blast where an American destroyer and German U-boat play hide and seek. Relying sensibly on character as much as action, this nonetheless has Oscar-winning effects which impress even today.

☐ **Separate Tables** (1958, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm, 99 mins). Disillusion and deceit beneath polished manners emerge through a series of layered characters at an English seaside holiday home, gentile poise is at odds with the reality of assorted lives. Burt Lancaster and Rita Hayworth are a divorced couple heading towards a second round of marriage, but particularly shining throughout are Wendy Hiller, as Lancaster's mistress, whose identity is totally wrapped up in his, and David Niven, a supposed war hero, who lets sadness seep out through the charm.

☐ **When He's Not A Stranger** (1989, BBCI, midnight, 90 mins). A serious, searching look at being raped by someone you know, this easily keeps its suspense afloat, but without either the cheap tricks of melodrama or any diversion from the truth. Annabeth Gish has no trouble capturing the insecurity, confusion and determination of a student who, invited back for coffee by her best pal, is then raped.

☐ **The Meanest Man In The World** (1943, Channel 4, 2.35am, 65 mins). Making a few smart points about success at all costs, this engaging froth casts Jack Benny as a struggling small-town lawyer who, keen to marry, opens an office in New York. Motivated naturally by sentiment, he soon takes his valet's advice and acts tough. Success follows, but so does unhappiness. Benny heartily enjoys himself in this crazy role and his verbal sparring with Eddie 'Rochester' Anderson (the valet) is a joy.

FRIDAY

MARCH 10

☐ **Cold Turkey** (1971, Sky Movies, 2pm, 99 mins). Dick van Dyke manages to be earnest yet chirpy as a mid-American minister who's convinced his town can give up smoking for a month in return for a tidy prize of $25 million. As a satire on morals and mores, it is focused and funny when possessed of ideas, otherwise it resorts to the same running gags.

☐ **Don't Take It To Heart** (1944, Channel 4, 2.20pm, 100 mins). The sort of affectionate, anarchic satire one associates with Ealing, this is a surprisingly accomplished debut by novelist-turned-director Jeffrey Dell, who sustains his tone of spirited irreverance from first frame to last. Even if some of the jokes are a tad overworked (like the decrepid butler's distinctive walk through haunted castle corridors), this has many deft comic touches. A bomb unleashes a ghost and local village politics.

☐ **The Slender Thread** (1965, The Movie Channel, 2.55pm, 98 mins). Sydney Pollack, grappling with first-time directing, doesn't quite know when to push his drama for maximum effect, and lets a certain stylisation intrude. However, at least there's efficient playing from Anne Bancroft, a suicide who changes her mind, and Sidney Poitier who keeps her on the phone.

☐ **The Apartment** (1960, Sky Movies Gold, 8pm, 125 mins). Even a director who can pack a film with ingredients, all of which settled down beautifully, Billy Wilder leaps successfully from sentiment to cynicism and back again. Jabbing away at modern materialist ambition through a low-rung accountant (who begins to climb the ladder by lending his apartment to executives), Wilder also embraces the human frailly behind such slick moves and so sentiment finds a place. Jack Lemmon, as the lead, employs his mixture of eagerness and vulnerability to great effect. Little touches, such as Shirley MacLaine confessing to three affairs while raising four fingers, considerably thicken the texture.

☐ **The Graduate** (1967, BBCI, 10.25pm, 100 mins). See pick of the week, page 7.

☐ **I Walked With A Zombie** (1943, BBC2, 12.15am, 70 mins). See pick of the week, page 7.

☐ **Just a Gigolo** (1979, Channel 4, 12.35am, 120 mins). It's always a shame to look in on actors who, however hard they try, cannot overcome the basic ineptitude of their director. Here, amazingly failing to find life in 1920s Berlin, director David Hemmings delivers a series of clanking set-pieces rather than a considered whole, with the entire uncertain escapade buffeted between anaemic tragedy and coarse farce. Yet the single remaining pleasure is in the casting. Dietrich energises the film when she croons the title song, Kim Novak lets an emotional depth emerge from behind her beauty, and Sydne Rome is occasionally touching as David Bowie's childhood sweetheart.

☐ **One Dangerous Night** (1943, Channel 4, 2.35am, 80 mins). Warren William as the Lone Wolf brings his appealingly comic instincts to the thief-turned-sleuth, with Eric Blore attracting the most laughter as the Wolf's waspish valet. As the hero proves himself innocent of murder, suspense is kept on a nice, tight leash.

DRAMA OF THE WEEK

Against the odds



Alexia Keogh, one of three actresses to play Janet Frame

The New Zealand-born writer and director Jane Campion has made only three feature-length films, but already qualifies for a position in the front rank of film-makers. With its three Oscars, the Cannes Palme d'Or and many other international awards, her 1993 work *The Piano* has established her as one of the most formidable of the new women directors.

Channel 4's series *Reel Women* has selected her second film (the first was *Sweetie* in 1989) and is showing it for the first time on television as a continuous work, as it was in the cinemas, instead of in its original form as a television mini-series on three separate evenings. An Angel At My Table (Monday, Channel 4, 10.55pm) is an extraordinary study in human resilience, adapted from the autobiography of New Zealand's most distinguished novelist, Janet Frame.

Campion reconstructs Frame's childhood and early adulthood, using three actresses to represent her at various ages. Alexia Keogh is the child, Karen Ferguson the teenager and Kerry Fox (recently seen in *Shallow Grave*) is the adult. The director has managed to achieve with the trio a consistency not only in appearance (given assistance by Frame's striking mop of red curls) but in characterisation.

Frame was born in 1924 into a poor family living in a rural area on the South Island, and her twin died almost immediately. Her eldest sister was to drown and her brother faced a lifetime struggling against epilepsy. The film shows how at school she is isolated and introverted, her ability to write poetry perceived as an outlandish eccentricity. Teaching is regarded as a suitable career for her. As a student her inwardness becomes more acute. The crisis is reached when, overcome by nerves and shyness, she dries in front of a class and an inspector. She has a breakdown and is packed off to a mental hospital where in monstrous false diagnosis her condition is recorded as schizophrenic, probably incurable. On account of her lack of sociability, a young woman on the threshold of her adult life is locked up, subjected to more than 200 doses of electric shock treatment. After eight years of institutional incarceration she is lobotomised.

She is saved, having won a literary award for some short stories, its organisers not appreciating her situation, and she is released, allegedly cured of an affliction she did not have. Campion could have left the narrative there, as the world beyond and success as a writer beckons, and no doubt that is what Hollywood would have done. Instead, she shows the difficulties Frame faces adjusting to freedom, her first journey abroad to be immersed in London's Bohemian set of the 1950s. There is the matter of losing her virginity and becoming pregnant. Then the Maudsley Hospital confirms that she is perfectly sound in mind and was never schizophrenic.

Campion's film is long, with more than 140 speaking parts, but it is always absorbing. The irritating camera tricks of *The Piano* are absent; it is a straightforward, unhysterical narrative, its remarkable story needing no embellishment.

RICHARD SCOTT

SATURDAY MARCH 4

SKY ONE

6.00am The Three Stooges (28891) 6.30 The Lucy Show (62013) 7.00 DJ's KTV (5631723) 11.30 VR Troopers (35433) 12.00 WWF Mania (42897) 1.00pm Pamela Bosch (58939) 1.30 Totally Hidden Video (32433) 2.00 Knights and Warriors (51004) 3.00 Thea's Company (8181) 3.30 Baby Talk (8453) 4.00 Bronco Country, Jr. (58384) 5.00 Revor Lives Can't Lose (31146) 5.30 VR Troopers (7704) 6.00 WWF Superstars (31181) 7.00 Kung Fu (72452) 8.00 The Extraordinary (51100) 9.00 Cops I (54756) 9.30 Cops II (43559) 10.00 Telos from the Crypt (16555) 10.30 Seinfeld (61075) 11.00 The Movie Show (56013) 11.30 Revan (4270X) 12.40am Monsters (4139999) 1.00 The Edge (25872) 1.30 Mork and Brain (50142) 2.00-6.00 Hit Me Long Play (1184376)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

6.00am Simpsa (1704075) 9.30 Special Report (94450) 10.30 ABC Nightline (62819) 11.30 Destinations: Orlando (85278) 12.30pm Week in Review UK (56704) 1.30 Those were the Days (57433) 2.30 Memories of 1970-1991 (11810) 3.30 Target (61088) 4.30 Week in Review UK (4094) 5.30 Beyond 2000 (16169) 7.30 Sportslife Live (70269) 8.30 Special Report(85704) 9.30 48 Hours (49549) 11.30 Sportslife Late (46566) 12.30am Destination Orlando (67834) 1.30 Those were the Days (31230) 2.30 Memories of 1970-1989 (99366) 3.30 Week in Review UK (94534) 4.30 Special Report (59124) 5.30 48 Hours (21300)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (86076) 8.00 The Film Flam Man (1967): Comedy about a con-man whose new assistant breaks the rules by staying honest (49246) 10.00 Lionhearts The Children's Crusade (1987): Eric Stoltz leads a band of juvenile knights to the Holy Land in search of King Richard I (34278) 12.00 The Gumball Rally (1976): Michael Sarrazin races cross-country against Gary Busey and Raul Julia (65297) 2.00pm Elvis and The Colonel: The Untold Story (1992): The tragic story of the King and his manipulative manager, Colonel Tom Parker (62075) 4.00 The Call of The Wild (1972): Charlton Heston stars in the classic Jack London tale set during the Yukon gold rush (4385) 6.00 Lassie Come Home (1943): The famous collie is sold by an impoverished family (82839) 8.00 The Positively True Adventures of the Alleged Texas Cheerleader-Murdering Mom (1993): A Texas housewife places a contract on her daughter's cheerleading rival in this real-life spoof. With Holly Hunter and Beau Bridges (87384) 10.00 Made in America (1993): Offbeat romantic comedy with Whoopi Goldberg discovering her child is really the daughter of the sperm donor Ted Danson (57834) 11.50 Night Rhythms (1992): Caper comedy with George C. Scott as the leader of a gang which robs a bank by burying it away (880471) 1.35am Made in America (1993): As 10pm (8026792) 3.25-5.50 Honour Thy Mother (1992): Fact-based drama with Sharon Gless as the victim of a mysterious attack in which her husband was killed (19905872)

4.00pm Once Upon a Honeymoon (1942): Black comedy drama with reporter Cary Grant telling his showgirl Ginger Rogers in Europe (9207) 6.00 Shadow of a Doubt (1943): Classic Hitchcock thriller in which a young girl suspects her uncle, Joseph Cotten, is the Merry Widow murderer (48433) 8.00 The Heiress (1949): William Wyler's adaptation of Henry James's Washington Square with Olivia de Haviland and Montgomery Clift (60276) 10.00-12.00 The Big Chill (1983): Sixties college friends Jeff Goldblum, William Hurt and others, reunite to mourn the death of a friend (36100)

6.00am Cobra Woman (1944): Maria Montez plays two roles in this kitsch classic from director Robert Siodmak (1847162) 7.15 The Gun Runners (1958): Adaptation of To Have And Have Not by Ernest Hemingway with Audie Murphy smuggling guns into Cuba (1048549) 8.40 Mutiny on the Buses (1973): Reg Varney in spin-off from the popular omnibus series (7697617) 10.10 Vincent and Me (1990): A young girl finds herself caught up in an art fraud (80114910) 12.00 Honey, I Blew Up the Kid (1992): Comedy sequel with Rick Moranis as the bungling scientist whose baby boy grows to 112 feet and heads for Las Vegas (93538) 2.00pm Little Heroes (1991): Tale of Charley changes her family's fortunes (90617) 4.00 Freeze Frame (1992): A young college journalist uncovers major city corruption (2907) 6.00 Honey, I Blew Up The Kid: As 12 noon (31181) 8.00 National Lampoon's Loaded Weapon 1 (1993): Police spoof with Emilio Estevez and Samuel L. Jackson (56825) 10.00 Rage and Honour II — Hostile Takeover (1992): An undercover special agent sides on a Jakarta crime syndicate (5559B) 11.40 Martial Law (1993): Martial arts thriller (1949B) 1.10am A Case for Murder (1993): Two young lawyers in love set out to discover the killer of a senior partner (452546) 3.45 Only You (1992): Andrew McCarthy has to choose between two very different girlfriends in this teenage comedy (466327) 4.20 The Gun Runners (1958): As 7.15am (4099143) 5.40 Tarzan and the Leopard Woman (1946): Johnny Weissmuller and Boy try to change the spots of a bizarre cult (1580414)

7.00am World Sport Special (23723) 7.30 Get Your Handicap Down (16758) 8.00 National Trails (22520) 8.30 Mac Out (21891) 9.00 The Big League: Hull v Sheffield Eagles (11100) 11.00 Golf USA (51812) 1.00pm Football Preview (79926) 2.00 Sports Saturday (75456113) 5.30 NBA Action (1988) 6.00 Scoreline (4028) 6.30 NBA Basketball (34033) 8.30 Scoreline (7471) 9.00 Hold The Back Page (60902) 10.00 Bushido — The Ultimate Fight (17648) 11.00 Max Out (86181) 11.30 International Rugby Union — Five Nations (89162) 1.30am Snowboard Show (97601) 2.00-3.00 Bushido — The Ultimate Fight (24132)

7.00am Soccer AM (1611907) 11.00 International Schoolboy Football (9748054) 1.00pm American Sports Spectacular (72013) 2.00 Motorsports World Special (4931839) 3.00 NBA Basketball (4457617) 5.00 Opposite Lock — International Motorsport (45722297) 7.00 International Rugby Union (90922778) 9.00 Golf USA — Live (50624339) 11.00 Get Your Handicap Down (4177487) 11.30-12.00 ATP Tennis Magazine (46293034)

7.30am Truck Racing (37928) 8.00 Football (56384) 9.30 Live Alpine Skiing (5480?6) 12.00 Live Speed Skating (3657695) 4.00pm Alpine Skiing (9520) 4.30 Live Alpine Skiing (59012) 8.30 Alpine Skiing (7549) 7.00 Golf (60898) 8.00 Live Tennis (16810) 10.00 Boxing (10407) 11.00 Formula One (34839) 12.00-1.00am International Motorsports Report (40086)

9.00am The Munro Show (2331520) 9.30 Charlie White's Fishing Machine (5590638) 10.00 Shoot the Video (2570094) 10.30 Blitz on Cartooning (2397704) 11.00 Cartoon with Mike Smith (7050620) 11.30 The History Makers (6908181) 12.30pm The Munro Show (5563462) 1.00 Charlie White's Fishing Machine (6017758) 1.30 Shoot the Video (6562733) 2.00 Blitz on Cartooning (2433013) 2.30 Driving with Mike Smith (1489897) 3.00-4.00 The History Makers (8515015)

7.00am Lassie (6918617) 7.30 Great Expectations (8920452) 8.00 Carrie's War (2360555) 8.30 Swallows and Amazons Forever (2339926) 9.00 Flesh and Blood (2940931) 10.00 Sutherland's Law (6928638) 11.00 Hazell (8930100) 12.00 Moonbase 3 (5541817) 1.00pm The Pink Panther Show (4838181) 1.15 Neighbours Omnibus (7598632) 3.15 EastEnders Omnibus (5796917) 5.00 Bella's Seven (5843029) 7.00 Thunderbirds (9139668) 8.00 Van Der Valk (9126638) 9.00 The Sweeney (7495100) 10.10 Files — Murder by Illusion (1998): A stunt man is hired to take the assassination of mafia leader (2883629) 12.05 In Concert: Rosanna Made (72407872) 2.25-3.30 Shopping (62820696)

9.00am Droibea Time Special (89462) 7.00 Willy Fogg (68094) 7.30 Charlie Brown (40029) 8.00 Garfield (66886) 8.30 Dungeons and Dragons (61487) 9.00 Prince Valiant (93838) 9.30 Flash Gordon (89033) 10.00 Runaway Boy (29094) 10.30 Beakman's World (78723) 11.00 Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (16763) 11.30 The New Adventures of Gigantor (19487) 12.00 The New Adventures of He-Man (89075) 12.30pm The Bots Master (18833) 1.00 Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (57385) 1.30 Ask the Cat (38510) 2.00 Pugwall's Summer (2768) 2.30 Sven's Crossing (9100) 3.00 Degrassi Junior High (5385) 3.30 Ready or Not (8617) 4.00-5.00 Headstreak High (29810)

7.00am The Muppets Show (213565) 7.30 Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (33100) 8.00 Dance the Last Dinosaur (20162) 8.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (29433) 9.00 Pee Wee's Playhouse (49013) 9.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (78297) 10.00 Galaxy High School (99283) 10.30 Grimmy (49027) 11.00 Doug (92742) 11.30 Rocko's Modern Life (93471) 12.00 Ren and Stimpy (30458) 12.30pm Rugrats (72013) 1.00 Darkwing Duck (31181) 1.30 Mission Top Secret (71384) 2.00 The Adventures of Pete and Pete (8742) 2.30 School of the Week (1742) 3.00 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (9429) 3.30 Visionaries (9497) 4.00 You Choose (2994) 4.30 Rugrats (8278) 5.00 Doug (7094) 5.30 Real Monsters (5758) 6.00 Rocko's Modern Life (837487) 6.18 Nickahnel (552742) 6.30-7.00 Roundhouse (3723)

4.00pm Fire Into Gold (9080100) 5.00 Stories from the Earth (2438100) 6.00 Problems of Prediction (5591471) 7.00 Preparing for Disaster (2813758) 8.00 Invention (2420649) 8.30 Treasure Hunters: Pereira's Deadly Gold (5432384) 9.00 Predictions: Sharks (4095029) 9.55 Man Eaters of the World: Bears (8031810) 10.00 Submarines (9212029) 11.00-12.00 Beyond 2000 (9926907)

12.00 Man From Interpol (2348510) 12.30 Get Smart (5557279) 1.00pm Cannon (5545433) 2.00 The Fantastic Journey (5875649) 3.00 The Tunnel (8410481) 4.00 FILM: Five Golden Dragons (1967): A naive American gets caught up in a Hong Kong crime ring (2410182) 5.40 Film Fanatics Frank (1967): A country bumpkin heads for the big city (3867666) 7.30 Bahaire Yousef (1497810) 8.00 FILM: Rage (1972): Horror starring Ray Milland (9117269) 10.00-12.00 FILM: Fillmore (1972): The final days of the Fillmore West concert venue. With music from The Grateful Dead (9808302)

8.00am Best of Agony Hour (8319462) 7.00 Living Magazine Highlights (7339094) 8.00 On The House (9883884) 9.30 Health UK (8521907) 10.00 Best of Anne and Nick (7918134) 10.30pm Best of Kilroy (4608452) 1.00 The New Mr and Mrs Show (7332181) 1.30 Now You See It (8405181) 1.55 Bar Energy (5407092) 2.30-4.00 Sportsmail (8540655) 3.00 FILM: Prime Suspect (1982): A business man finds himself the chief suspect in a child murder (2700549) 4.55 Sneak Scenes Stargate (8543182) 5.00 Inbetween UK (9496587) 5.30 The New Mr and Mrs Show (9544471) 6.00 Best of Anne and Nick (9182029) 8.00 The Visit (9183758) 8.50 Come Dancing (1874471) 9.30 Infatuation (8718487) 10.00 FILM: All Tied Up: Bachelor boy get his come-uppance at the hands of his girlfriend's flatmates (3534828) 11.40-12.00 Gladrags and Glamour (8921704)

5.00am FILM: The Little Match Girl (1987): An orphan girl brings the gifts of love and reconciliation to a rich and powerful family when they take her in from the streets. Starring Keshia Knight Pulliet and directed by Michael Lindsay-Hogg (42994704) 6.50 Dangermouse (8859868) 7.00 Trivial Pursuit (1985) 7.30 Catchphrase (7365) 8.00 Countdown (9094) 8.30 Evening Shade (1029) 9.00 Sirens (851000) 10.00 FILM: The Gold and Glory (1983): Two Aussie brothers compete for the same girl in a sports marathon (8541182) 11.50 Borderlown (9415858) 12.20pm All Together Now (1980018) 12.45 The Wonder Years (2942477) 1.15 FILM: The Little Match Girl: As 5am (3862292) 3.05-5.00 FILM:

The Gold and Glory: As 10am (594834)

7.00am Mad March Weekend (68036) 9.00 The Worst of Most Wanted (81297) 9.30 Zig and Zag (99051) 10.00 The Big Picture (21462) 10.30 Hit List UK (63164) 12.30pm First Look (10297) 1.00 The Pulse (59723) 1.30 Mad March Weekend (85807) 2.30 The Stats (64291) 4.00 Dance (38598) 5.00 The Big Picture (2668) 5.30 News (9348) 6.00 Saxophone Top 20 (63366) 7.00 Unplugged (1452) 9.30 The Stats (3487) 9.00 Soul of MTV (47758) 10.00 First Look (92162) 10.30 Zig and Zag (71810) 11.00 Yo! (29159) 1.00am The Worst of Most Wanted (90124) 1.30 Chill Out Zone (93788) 3.00-7.00 Night Videos (5669853)

7.00am Breakfast in Bed (8215569) 8.30 Café VH-1 (3958349) 12.00 Ten of the Best (1765723) 1.00 Into the Music (4813433) 3.00 Album Chart Show (4469076) 5.00 Best of the Bridge (7342297) 6.00 1 to 1 (4180617) 6.30 Old Grey Whistle Test (1042697) 7.00 Unplugged: Bob Dylan (5076384) 8.00 Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way? (5061704) 9.00 Saturday Night Live (4094100) 9.30 On the Road: Status Quo (5737988) 11.00 Barry White's Love Line (4073817) 11.30 The Green Machine (8818368)

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including 8.00pm Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

6.00am Persian Dawn (82686817) 7.00 Jagran (68568520) 7.30 Shabads (68577656) 8.00 Jungleo Tootan Tyre Puncture (76097891) 8.30 Bara Geet (75096162) 9.00 UnlockKids (76010742) 9.30 Khana Khazana (81848328) 10.00 Seefiyan (96573332) 11.00 Mufti Shiv Sraee (94600620) 11.30 Get Set Go (34618549) 12.00 Gana Anjaana (75007278) 12.30pm Teer Kamaan (81947452) 1.00 Hindi Movie: Dil Diya Dard Liya (82282810) 4.00 Aaandhi (34524100) 5.00 Hum Zameen (82557471) 6.30 Video Junction (78864952) 9.00 Kya Scene Hai (78861568) 6.30 Manasi (78845500) 7.00 Sajan Sajni (82684907) 7.30 Pakistani Serial: Mystery Theatre (78944194) 8.00 Bollywood Beat (96?28555) 8.30 Premiere Movie (45705365) 11.00 BBCD (65574566) 12.00 Rang Tarang (17456501) 1.00am Sight and Sound (76123689)

Continuous cartoons from 6am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

Theme: Action Factor (41831838)

7.00pm Fighter Squadron (1948): Robert Stack and Edmond O'Brien star in the story of heroism among Second World War pilots (16627029) 9.00 The Wings of Eagles (1957): John Wayne stars in this biopic of a pioneering First World War navy pilot (76371094) 11.00 The First of The Few (1943): Leslie Howard and David Niven in the biopic of the designer of the Spitfire fighter plane, R.J. Mitchell (13784617) 1.00 Fighter Squadron (1948): As 7pm (14541836) 2.40-5.00 The Wings of Eagles (1957): As 9pm (90635747)

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (98462) 1.00 Anglia News and Weather (45102385) 1.10 Eye TV (67197810) 1.40 Agatha Christie's Murder with Mirrors (11545617) 3.30 Car of the Year 95 (6354305) 3.50-4.45 Knight Rider (1385588) 5.05-6.20 Anglia News, Sport and Weather (7353013) 12.50am Stuntmasters (4947853) 1.35 American Gladiators (3270327) 2.30 BPM (8747037) 3.25 The Big E (5408211) 4.20 America's Top Ten (41752368) 4.50 Nightshift (34734650) 5.00-6.30 Movies, Games and Videos (44834)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (98462) 1.00 Central News and Weather (45102385) 1.10 Eye TV (67197810) 1.40 The Munsters Today (35044452) 2.05-4.00 Film: Prince Of Bel Air (Mark Harmon, Kirstie Alley, Richard Vaughan) (5405433) 5.05 Central News and Weather (2560340) 5.10-5.20 Central Match - Goals Extra (6155471) 4.30am Get Stuffed (34733934) 4.35 Jollyknock (72?9670) 5.20-5.30 Avalon Eyn (7450479)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Eye TV (98452) 1.05 Granada News (45100460) 1.10 Film: Ashanti (Michael Caine, Beverly Johnson, Peter Ustinov) (74757704) 3.15 Knight Rider (4441988) 4.10-4.45 Car of the Year 95 (2201081) 5.00 Granada News (2551076) 5.05-5.20 Granada Goals Extra (7335013) 12.50am Tropical Heat (1219550) 1.45 The Big E (3201079) 2.40 American Gladiators (7058872) 3.30 BPM (2189091) 4.35 Sportsworld (78896563) 5.00-5.30 ITV Sport Classics (44834)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Eye TV (98452) 1.05 HTV West Headlines and Weather (45102385) 1.10 Ski-Time (57197810) 1.40 seaQuest DSV (3955278) 2.50 Movies, Games and Videos (810) 3.00 The A-Team (4465181) 3.50-4.45 Knight Rider (1385588) 5.05-5.20 HTV West News and Sports Results (7353013)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 1.05-1.10 HTV Wales News and Weather (45102385) 5.05-5.20 HTV Wales News and Sports Results (7353013)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Eye TV (98452) 1.05 Meridian News and Weather (45102385) 1.10 Ski-Time (57197810) 1.40 Wanted Dear or Alive (35034075) 2.10 The Munsters Today (35232589) 2.40 Warner Cartoon (9842704) 2.45 seaQuest DSV (8955278) 3.45-4.45 Knight Rider (1385588) 5.05 Meridian News and Weather (5238768) 5.15-5.20 Warner Cartoon (2574826) 12.50am Stuntmasters (4947853) 1.35 American Gladiators (3270327) 2.30 BPM (8747037) 3.25 The Big E (3406211) 4.20 America's Top Ten (41752368) 4.50 Nightshift (34734650) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (44834)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (98462) 1.05 Westcountry News (45102365) 1.10 Eye TV (67197810) 1.40 Birthday People (5883321) 1.45 Warner Brothers Cartoon (86822723) 1.55 The A-Team (8267278) 2.50-4.45 seaQuest DSV (54132638) 5.05-5.20 Westcountry News (7353013)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Games and Videos (98462) 1.05 Calendar News and Weather (45102385) 1.10 The Munsters Today (67197810) 1.40 The Motor Show (35034075) 2.10 Film: For Love or Money (Genevieve Page/Rex Harrison/Sid Gerard) (602365) 3.50-4.45 Knight Rider (1385588) 5.05 Calendar News (2560340) 5.10-5.20 Scoreline (8155471) 12.50am Coach (4721921) 1.40 Tour of Duty (9?29?58) 2.15 BPM (608634) 3.15 The Little Picture Show (3424259) 4.10 Cue the Music (9311582) 5.05 Nite Bites (7009679) 5.20-5.30 Profile (7466476)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 Ovide (9094094) 7.15 The Adventures Of Sonic The Hedgehog (5602655) 7.40 First Edition (8410688) 8.00 Transworld Sport (96487) 9.00 Channel 4 Racing. The Morning Line (84433) 10.00 World Tennis (18557) 10.30 From The Horses Mouth Silks (83276) 11.00 Gazzetta Football Italia (39100) 12.00pm High 5 (60759) 12.35 Moviewatch (80504) 1.00 Dennis (87921452) 1.20 Profiles Of Nature: Birds Of the Arctic Tundra (57192365) 1.50 Rygbi' Yr Alban v Cymru (58417452) 4.05 Channel 4 Racing From Doncaster (2782?2) 5.05 Bodyside (81?8638) 5.30 Newyddion (711764) 6.40 Tocyn Tymor (766810) 7.40 Penwythnos Mewr (297822) 8.30 Teulu (59022) 9.30 Pad Mewn — The Second Series (85762) 10.00 Pot Night: Rosezinno — A Slash From the Past (51487) 10.30 Pot Night: Amsterdam By Night (94307) 11.00 Pot Night: Savage Cooking (91237) 11.05 Pot Night: Cheech and Chong's Up In Smoke (721520) 12.40am Pot Night: Kente People (3113105) 1.10 Pot Night: High School Confidential (9189?9) 2.45 Pot Night: Super Grass (8187476) 3.00 Pot Night: Reefer Madness (8176501)

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Making Whoopi by numbers

WHATEVER happened to Whoopi Goldberg? No, she hasn't disappeared, but her career seems to have wandered off into a wilderness of lightweight, acting-by-numbers roles. And it all started so well with *The Color Purple* in 1985. She showed how underused her talent is when she won an Oscar in 1990 for best supporting actress in *Ghost*. So why does she accept scripts which offer so little, such as *Sister Act* and *Star Trek: Generations*?

In 1993 came *Made in America* (Sky Movies, 10pm), with Ted Danson (above). This comedy has Whoopi as a career woman whose daughter discovers she is the product of artificial insemination — and her father is a white used-car salesman.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8

CHOICE: Cancer therapy goes private; puzzle of lost ship; Rantzen's rewards; war memories

Brave and worthy get the star treatment

Charles Stewart and Malcolm Hirst, the team responsible for a memorable series about Lewisham council, turn their attention to a bastion of private medicine in **Modern Times: Harley Street** (BBC2, 8.30pm). It is easy to condemn a system in which vain women are prepared to pay £4,500 for a face-lift and specialists add lashings of jam to their NHS bread and butter. But Stewart and Hirst present the evidence and leave the opinions to us. At the heart of their film is a contentious new treatment for breast cancer known as high-dose chemotherapy. It is both hideously expensive (£60,000) and unproven. But with the disease affecting one British woman in 11, there is no shortage of takers.

The largest single ship to be lost in British maritime history was the *Derbyshire*, a bulk carrier which sank 14 years ago in the South China Seas. All 44 crew members died. The official report suggested that the ship had been "overwhelmed by the forces of nature" during a typhoon. But families of the victims, and maritime safety experts, have long campaigned for a new inquiry. The ITN team of Rob While and Rory MacLean has been following the story for four years for **Dispatches** (Channel 4, 9pm). Their film reveals that doubts about the *Derbyshire*'s design go back to the 1970s when it and similar ships were being built on Teesside.

Prepare to welcome more unsung heroes who, thanks to Esther Rantzen and **Hearts of Gold** (BBCI, 8pm), are unsung no longer. As usual the recipients of the *Hearts of Gold* award are beyond criticism. But the show's format, which involves luring these brave and worthy people into the sudio under false pretences and in showbusiness schmaltz, is something else. Not for nothing are Rantzen's latest cohorts a game-show host, Carol Smillie, and a comic, Mickey Hutton.

Jeremy Isaacs decided to end his vast television history of the Second World War by leaving aside the great figures and the decisive engagements and evoking the experience of conflict through ordinary fighting men. **The World At War: Remember** (BBC2, 7pm) made a moving documentary more than 20 years ago and it still does. As we brace ourselves for an avalanche of commemorations in the approach to VE Day, it will be worth checking whether any come close to this simple, affecting film.

PETER WAYMARK



Carole Smillie, Esther Rantzen, Mickey Hutton (BBCI, 8pm)

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (14750)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95337798)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (5488069)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7666750) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8873653) **10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick**. Weekday magazine (s) (7125717)

12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (1631408) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (s) (7490021) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (16030427)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (19156) **1.30 Neighbours**. (Ceefax) (s) (77777801)

1.50 Going for Gold. Henry Kelly fires the questions in another round of the general knowledge quiz with European contestants (77788717) **2.15 Allan Smith and Jones**. Light-hearted western adventures starring Pete Duel and Ben Murphy (r) (3160717)

3.05 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave. Three-course dinners from a microwave (s) (5834663) **3.20 Brilliant Gardens**. A visit to Glasgow Botanic Gardens (6074953)

3.30 Barney Bear Double-Bill (2148243) **3.45 Sick as a Parrot**. Crossword puzzle game presented by Simon Davies (s) (2143798) **4.00 Jackanory**. Kaye Webb tells the story of *The Twits* (s) (4459099) **4.10 Potsworth and Co** (r) (6405427) **4.35 The Really Wild Show**. Chris Packham, Michaela Strachan and Howie Watkins travel to the Galapagos Islands. (Ceefax) (s) (1769311)

5.00 Newsround (2484595) **5.05 The Biz**. Drama serial about the pupils of a school of dance and drama. (Ceefax) (s) (9280243)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (940494). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (596)

6.30 Regional news magazines (175). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel surprises another unsuspecting worthy. (Ceefax) (s) (7682)

7.30 Here and Now. Current affairs magazine (359)

8.00 Hearts of Gold. (Ceefax) (s) (393934)

8.50 Points of View. (Ceefax) (s) (822311)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6175)

9.30 Harry. Series about a Darlington news agency starring Michael Elphick as an investigative reporter. (Ceefax) (s) (591156)

10.20 Sportsnight presented by Desmond Lynam. The line-up includes highlights of tonight's FA Carling Premiership match between Blackburn Rovers and Arsenal and a preview of this weekend's WBO World Heavyweight championship bout between Herbie Hide and Riddick Bowe (s) (805427)

12.00 The Stand Up Show. Comedy introduced by Barry Cryer (s) (77199)

12.30am FILM: Murder COD (1990) starring William Devane and Patrick Duffy. A thriller about a killer who uses state-of-the-art surveillance equipment to choose his next victim. Directed by Alan Metzger. (Ceefax) (877373) **2.05 Weather** (7668915)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Cognitive Development — Out of Sight, Out of Mind (7347446) **6.45** Language and Literature (2193330) **7.10** Maarten Van Heemskerck: Humanism and Painting (5483576) **7.35** Humanity and the Scaffold (5066801)

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (6750311)

8.15 Westminster On-Line with Trevor Phillips (s) (4248934)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Quinze Minutes (5529578) **9.15** Focus (7162359) **9.25** Study Ireland — Geography (5522663) **9.45** Storytime (5504137) **10.00** Playdays (5891359) **10.25** Watch: Homes Across Europe (1621243) **10.40** Around Scotland (4146779). **Northern Ireland:** Ulster in Focus **11.00** Cats' Eyes (8579779) **11.15** Ghostwriter (159798) **11.45** Developing World (9373885) **12.10** The Geography Programme (5143866) **12.30** Working Lunch (61972) **1.00** The German Collection (67096137) **1.25** Zig Zag (81740779) **1.45** You and Me (25363427) **2.00** The Graedysaurus Gang (65912427) **2.05** Spider (65911798)

2.10 Songs of Praise from Wimslow Methodist Church, Cheshire (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9702755) **2.45 Treasures of the Trust**. The Kingston Lacy estate in Dorset and Powys castle in Wales (r) (8470048)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster** with **Nick Ross** (4366243) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (96556137)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (208)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Innovative recipes (s) (972)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The audience are joined by other people who have helped them sometime in their lives (s) (3141798)

5.40 World Figure Skating Championships from the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham (522798)

6.15 Star Trek — The Next Generation. Science-fiction adventures starring Patrick Stewart. (Ceefax) (s) (940205)

7.00 The World at War. (Ceefax) (171408)

7.50 World Figure Skating Championships. Further coverage from Birmingham (973224)

8.00 Magic Animals. A look at dolphins. Narrated by Miranda Richardson. (Ceefax) (s) (4972)

8.30 Modern Times: Harley Street. (Ceefax) (s) (106383)

9.20 World Figure Skating Championships introduced by Sue Barker with Robin Cousins (63746021)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (155798)

11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (148214)

11.55 Weather (473158)

12.00 Forecasting the Economy (4557557)

12.25am The Enlightenment: Reason and Progress (9331977)

12.50 The Record. The day in Parliament (s) (3018606). Ends at 1.15

2.00-3.40 Night School: Modern Languages (339170)

4.00-4.15 BBC Select: Benefits Agency Today (13407354)

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7639205)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3274137) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8878408)

10.00 The Time ... the Place. John Stapleton presides over a studio audience as they discuss a topical issue (s) (7903088)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (26560369) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1620392)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (209176)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (2184969) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57091682)

1.55 Capital Woman with Anneka Rice and Pattie Coldwell (s) (35981175) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74738156) **2.50 Blue Heelers**. A tragic blunder occurs during the funeral of a man killed in a car crash (7249330)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (60850B99) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6077040)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (s) (2156359) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (80537?6) **3.50 A Pup Named Scooby Doo** (r) (93983454) **4.15 Reboot** (s) (6499866) **4.40 The Tomorrow People** (Teletext) (6023953)

5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (6254682)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (327408)

5.55 Your Shout. Members of the public air their views (897750)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (863)

6.30 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (243)

7.00 Wish You Were Here ... ? Judith Chalmers attends the 40th Galway International Oyster Festival; John Carter reports from Innsbruck, the cultural capital of the Austrian Tyrol; and Martin Roberts travels to Australia, starting in Sydney before exploring Brisbane and sailing around the Whitsunday Islands. (Teletext) (s) (2750)

7.30 Coronation Street (Teletext) (427)

8.00 The Match — Live: Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final. Coverage of the match between Crystal Palace and Liverpool (4601) **NB:** In the event of extra time/penalties subsequent programmes may run late

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (17663)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (809353)

10.40 FILM: Disorganised Crime (1989) starring Hoyt Axton and Corbin Bernson. A criminal contacts four other crooks to execute the perfect heist, but he is arrested, leaving the others to fend for themselves. Directed by Jim Koul (12815311)

12.40am Alien Nation. Sikes and George investigate the deaths of a number of members of a Newcomer religious order (s) (1128354)

1.35 Hollywood Report (s) (2292557)

2.05 The Beat with Gary Crowley (s) (6987712)

3.00 The Album Show featuring Bruce Springsteen (s) (9794422)

4.05 Shift (2363880)

4.55 The Time ... the Place (r) (s) (7880365)

5.30 ITN Morning News (63896). Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (2104446)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (70309)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (27040)

9.30 Schools: Living and Growing (5572408) **9.46** Talk, Write and Read **10.02** Stage Two Science (5595359) **10.18** The Jacobites (8138243) **10.40** Living with Technology (8117750) **10.55** Film and Video Showcase (6384866) **11.08** Encyclopaedia Galactica (6936446) **11.15** The Music Show (6587796) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (4102176) **11.45** First Edition (4190330)

12.00 House To House (14576)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Blak Underwood (21243) **1.30 Take 5** featuring Mister Man, Tales From the Riverbank, Natalie, Ivor the Engine and Joggy Bear (55311)

2.00 FILM: The Pharmacist (1933, b/w). A W.C. Fields short about a small-town chemist with a dreadful family. Directed by Arthur Ripley (74717683)

2.25 FILM: FDR: The Last Year (1980). The second and final part of the made-for-television biopic of the last year in American president Franklin Delano Roosevelt's life. Starring Jason Roberds. Directed by Anthony Page. (Teletext) (626822)

4.00 Journeyman. Clive Gunnell visits Shaftesbury in Dorset (s) (156)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (840)

5.00 Rickl Lake. The guests are a young man and his shy girlfriend who are married before the show is over. (Teletext) (s) (8199885)

5.50 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons (810601)

6.00 All American Girl. Sitcom starring Margaret Cho. (Teletext) (s) (205)

6.30 Boy Meets World. Rites of passage comedy. (Teletext) (s) (885)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (166576) **7.50 The Slot** (968392)

8.00 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (9040)

8.30 The Real Holiday Show. Reports from Turkey, a caravanning holiday and a time share near Marbella. (Teletext) (s) (6176)

9.00 Dispatches. (Teletext) (317040)

9.46 Out Of Order. Trapped in the lift this week are Nesta Wynn Williams, the Prime Minister's biographer, and Nina Myskow who discuses whether John Major is sexy or just an anonymous man in a suit. (Teletext) (s) (6098772)

10.00 ER. American hospital drama series. (Teletext) (s) (102448)

10.55 The Best Of the Tube. Includes performances by Wet Wet Wet and Echo and the Bunnymen (492868)

11.30 Moviewatch (r) (s) (70779)

12.00 LA Law. Courtroom drama series (2198199)

12.55am Omnibus. A commuter tries to get off a train that is not stopping at his station (5230847)

1.05 Beyond El Rocco. The second of two programmes about Australia's jazz scene (r) (s) (8411248)

2.10 FILM: Cyrano (1932, b/w) starring Ronald Colman as a middle-aged lawyer whose extra-marital affair ends in disaster. Directed by King Vidor (1936539). Ends at 3.25

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (52659) 8.00 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (64595) 8.30 Blockbusters (63866) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (11175) 10.00 Concentration (27601) 10.30 Card Sharks (76339) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (51166) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (57662) 12.30pm Anything But Love (14068) 1.00 St Elsewhere (65953) 2.00 Darlings of the Gods (28539) 3.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (53903393) 3.50 The DJ Kat Show (98577981) 4.30 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (6008) 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (92569) 6.00 Gamesworld (7853) 6.30 Family Ties (8205) 7.00 Rescue (8458) 7.30 M*A*S*H (7717) 8.00 A Mind to Kill (36224) 10.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (553659) 11.00 Late Show with David Letterman (310768) 11.50 Lillejohn (744327) 12.40am Chronicles (3566248) 1.30 The New WKRP in Cincinnati (85793) 2.00-6.00 Hi Mr Long I Say (99136254)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (1604553) 9.30 Entertainment (81708) 10.30 ABC Nightline (74972) 1.30pm CBS News (24779) 2.30 Parliament Live (772453) 5.05 Lillejohn (10500934) 9.30 O.J. Simpson Trial (152788) 12.30am CBS News (60118) 1.30 Fashion TV (72049) 2.30 Parliament (98737) 4.30 CBS News (20460) 5.30 ABC News (92016)

SKY MOVIES

5.00am Showcase (1554659) 10.00 Mister Ten Percent (1980) Producer John Le Mesurier attempts to swindle innocent playwright Charlie Drake (85578) 12.00 The Salzburg Connection (1972) Lawyer Barry Newman stumbles across a spy ring while on holiday (99755) 2.00pm Comrack (1974) Teacher Jon Voight wins the respect of his pupils (26911) 4.00 Across The Great Divide (1977) A conman and two orphans trek across America in search of their inheritance (7501) 6.00 The Man in the Moon (1991) Drama about a 14-year-old girl (59176) 8.00 Jane's House (1993) Widower James Wood's new wife struggles to win over his children (21292) 10.00 Death Wish V — The Face of Death (1993) Ageing vigilante Charles Bronson returns to settle old scores (4282255) 11.35 Angel Eyes (1991) A disturbed beauty seduces a loan shark (6797981) 12.55 Blood In, Blood Out (1993) Urban drama about three young men in Los Angeles (18760980) 2.50 Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry (1974) Peter Fonda and Susan George rob a supermarket run (53696422)

SKY MOVIES PLUS

6.00pm The Spy Who Came in from the Cold (1965) Richard Burton infiltrates the KGB (15775) 8.00 The Three Faces of Eve (1957) With Joanne Woodward (10224) 10.00-12.00 Good Guys Wear Black (1979) Chuck Norris has to defend national security (87408)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

8.00am Vincent and Me (1990) A young girl finds herself caught up in an art fraud (42205) 9.00 Black Island (1979) A couple of schoolboys find themselves in deep trouble (620699) 9.00 Pop Pirates (1984) A pop group is caught up in a dangerous adventure (46936) 10.00 Who's Been Sleeping in My Bed? (1963) With Dean Martin (15446) 12.00 Tarzan and the Great River (1967) Tarzan grapples with a ruthless Amazonian slave cult (6594527) 1.40 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) As Macaulay Culkin's mates Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern (59943021) 3.50 Black Island (1979) As 8am (3517866) 4.50 Pop Pirates (1984) As 9am (97525007) 6.35 Ride with the Wind (1993) Middle-aged biker ignores medical advice in bid to win the national championship (77553198) 7.30 Special Features: Animals (7917) 8.00 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) As 1.50pm (29934) 10.00 Seventh Floor (1993) Psychological drama with Brooke Shields (183682) 11.40 Tess of the d'Urbervilles (1979) As 8am (35179

SUNDAY MARCH 5

SKY ONE

6.00am Hour of Power (14582) 7.00 DJ's KTV (6808495) 11.30 VR Troopers (64327) 12.00 WWF Challenge (40211) 1.00pm Paradise Beach (93940) 1.30 Here's Boomer (37747) 2.00 Entertainment this Week (69018) 3.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (66142) 4.00 Hit Mix (47950) 5.00 WWF Action Zone (5037) 6.00 The Simpsons (4640957) 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (87765) 8.00 Melrose Place (66414) 9.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (76650) 10.00 Renegade (692337) 11.00 Entertainment This Week (87382) 12.00 Top of the Heap (4256816) 12.40am SIBS (4198341) 1.00 Comic Strip Live (89438) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix Long Play (5469559)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.

6.00am Sunrise (1773747) 9.30 Business Sunday (68239) 10.00 Sunday with Adam Boulton (27200) 11.30 The Book Show (87972) 12.30pm This Week in Review International (61018) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (62747) 2.30 48 Hours (28124) 3.30 Business Sunday (61722) 4.30 Week in Review International (1358) 5.30 Fashion TV (34143) 7.30 The Trial of OJ Simpson (22382) 8.30 The Book Show (14698) 9.30 Worldwide Report (94853) 11.30 CBS News (56230) 12.30am ABC News (61606) 1.30 Business Sunday (5707902) 2.10 Sunday with Adam Boulton (7521644) 3.30 Week in Review International (18996) 4.30 CBS News (37146) 5.30 ABC News (60254)

SKY MOVIES

5.00am Showcase (22259) 5.00 Aloha Summer (1988): Mismatched teenagers party in 1959 Hawaii (73088) 10.00 Table for Five (1983): Soap-opera with Jon Voight as a divorced father struggling to gain custody of his children (42341265) 12.05pm Are You Being Served? (1977): Spin-off from the comedy series has the entire cast head off for an office holiday (857056) 2.00 The Return of Ironside (1993): Retiring Raymond Burr discovers corruption in the Denver Police Department (77369) 4.00 City Boy (1992): A young man befriends a petty criminal in the back streets of the Northwest in this adventure drama with James Brolin (6939) 6.00 Digger (1993): Two troubled youngsters befriend each other. With Olympia Dukakis and Leslie Nielsen (60963) 8.00 Mr Baseball (1992): Ailing baseball player Tom Selleck accepts a transfer to Japan in this culture shock comedy (62695) 10.00 Bram Stoker's Dracula (1992): Francis Ford Coppola's stunningly stylish adaptation of the Vampire legend. With Gary Oldman and Winona Ryder (2432421) 12.10am The Movie Show (5497926) 12.40 The Vernon Johns Story (1964): True story of black civil rights leader Vernon Johns starring James Earl Jones (3785529) 2.15 Glengarry Glen Ross (1992): Gripping David Mamet drama set in a Chicago real-estate office. With Jack Lemmon, Al Pacino and Alec Baldwin as rival salesmen (832235) 5.55 I Bought a Vampire Motorcycle (1990): British horror-comedy about a motorcycle which runs on blood. With Anthony Daniels and Michael Elphick (20145390)

SKY SOAPS

4.00pm City Lights (1931): Celebrated Chaplin classic, with the star as a tramp lying to fund a blind girl's eye operation (9321) 5.30 Harvey (1950): Oscar-winning comedy with James Stewart as the drunkard whose best friend is a six-foot rabbit, invisible to everyone but him (76785) 8.00 Stalag 17 (1953): Billy Wilder's Oscar-winning comedy-drama about a Second World War POW camp. Stars William Holden (74253) 10.00-12.00 Through a Glass Darkly (1961): Drama from Ingmar Bergman, with Harriet Andersson as a former patient of a mental institution (41414)

SKY MOVIES PLUS

6.55am Lifeboat (1944): Alfred Hitchcock drama set on a lifeboat after a passenger liner sinks (37288292) 8.35 High Flight (1958): RAF drama, with Ray Milland as an instructor knocking young cadets into shape (85669485) 10.30 If I Were King (1938): Comedy from Preston Sturges about a revolt against King Louis XI led by a roguish French poet. Starring Ronald Colman and Oscar-nominated Basil Rathbone (82775553) 12.00 Spiderman (1977): The wallcrawler is invited to the rescue as a master criminal holds New York to ransom (64583) 2.00pm Reivers (1969): Steve McQueen and Sean Patrick Flanery star in this rewording of the Arthurian legend (75468) 4.00 Of Mice and Men (1992): Adaptation of John Steinbeck's play, with John Malkovich (1211) 5.00 The Babe (1992): John Goodman is baseball star George Herman (Babe) Ruth, in this screen biography (69488) 8.00 Last Action Hero (1993): Arnie plays Jack Slater, the biggest film star in the world, who is joined on his latest movie adventure by young kid, Danny Madigan (66634972) 10.10 Roller Crisis (1992): Sci-fi blockbuster set in the year 2050, when a giant solar flare threatens to engulf the Earth. Starring Tim Matheson, Charlton Heston (7145853) 12.05am Follow (1992): Tom Selleck is a family man plagued by his parents, Don Ameche and Anne Jackson, in this domestic comedy (348644) 1.45 School Ties (1992): A young football star struggles to overcome prejudice when he is head-hunted by an exclusive New England prep school (630664) 3.45 Chrome Soldiers (1992): Action drama, with Gary Busey and Ray Sharkey among five Vietnam veterans taking into a small town to track down a murderer (30747096)

SKY SPORT

7.00am Opposite Lock — International Motorsport (38572) 9.00 Yachting (56873) 10.00 Golf USA (55105) 12.00 Goals on Sunday (40921) 1.30pm Hold the Back Page (59961) 2.30 World Soccer Magazine (6892) 3.00 Super Sunday — Live; Chelsea v Crystal Palace (8836124) 7.00 One to One (9560) 7.30 The Big League (91330) 8.30 Super Sunday (32087) 11.30 US Grand Prix Athletics (76515) 12.30am Squash — 1994 Super Series Review (89831) 1.30-2.00 One To One (93167)

SKY SPORT 2

7.00am Soccer Extra (1688679) 11.00 NBA Basketball (9715786) 1.00pm Athletics — The British Cross Country Championships (1749285) 2.00 International Rugby Union (5038833) 4.00 National Trails (4181552) 4.30 NBA Basketball (9727501) 6.30 US Grand Prix Athletics (8821837) 8.30 Golf USA — Live (6227784) 11.00-12.00 Yachting — America's Cup (9029834)

SKY SPORT 3

7.30am Tennis (4221 f) 9.30 Live Alpine Skiing (6375699) 12.00 Live Speed Skating (7252704) 4.00pm Indoor Bowls (74253) 4.30 Live Alpine Skiing (94388) 6.30 Live IndyCar (5792088) 7.00 Golf (93780) 8.00 Live Indycar (21124) 10.00 Marathon (40269) 11.00-12.30 Tennis (84583)

SKY SPORT 4

9.00am Campaign in History (9816105) 10.00 The Living Body (9347769) 10.30 The Dirt Detective (2304479) 11.00 Guitar for Beginners (1385132) 11.30 Go Fishing (1552261) 12.00 Furniture to Go (2328909) 12.35pm Campaign in History (1619788) 1.30 The Living Body (5529495) 2.00 The Dirt Detective (2400785) 2.30 Guitar for Beginners (1385132) 3.00 Go Fishing (2468292) 3.30-4.00 Furniture to Go (1499306)

SKY SOAPS

7.00am Lassie (9985369) 7.30 Josey's Giants (8697124) 8.00 Paul Temple (5180634) 9.00 Big Deal (3817653) 10.00 The Pink Panther Show (8052211) 10.10 Dr Who Omnibus (7788747) 12.00 Robin's Nest (2328414) 12.30pm FILM: Battle of the River Plate (1957): The story of the hunting down of German battleship Graf Spee during the Second World War. Starring John Gregson and Peter Finch (2385782) 2.45 The Bill Omnibus (81449495) 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (8405290) 6.00 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (2927637) 6.40 Fresh Fields (2653766) 7.10 Triangle (9685979) 7.35 The Dick Emery Show (8405143) 8.00 Coast to Coast (9183109) 9.00 Minder (9108872) 10.00 Miami Vice (9116259) 11.00 Fox (3843018) 12.05am Rockford's Files (4576626) 1.05 Wanda (6457631) 2.05-3.00 Shopping at Night (1605781)

SKY SOAPS 2

9.00am Sesame Street (84766) 7.00 Around the World with Willy Fogg (83309) 7.30 Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show (75143) 8.00 Garfield and Friends (91203) 8.30 Dungeons and Dragons (96801) 9.00 Prince Valiant (97853) 9.30 Flash Gordon (29327) 10.00 Runaway Boy (27016) 10.30 Chocky's Children (92377) 11.00 Amazing Live Sea Monkeys (43872) 11.30 The New Adventures of Gilgamboy (44601) 12.00 The New Adventures of He-Man (74388) 12.30pm The Bots Master (23143) 1.00 Cadillacs and Dinosaurs (92679) 1.30 Sak the Cat (22414) 2.00 Rupert's Summer (1872) 2.30 Swan's Crossing (8414) 3.00 Dogtanian Junior High (7979) 3.30 Ready or Not (97192) 4.00-5.00 California Dreams (34158)

SKY SOAPS 3

7.00am The Muppets Show (38037) 7.30 Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (40672) 8.00 Denver the Last Dinosaur (61414) 8.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (60765) 9.00 Pee Wee's Playhouse (41037) 9.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (76211) 10.00 Galaxy High School (18765) 10.30 Grimmy (30921) 11.00 Doug (45376) 11.30 Rocko's Modern Life (99835) 12.00 Ren and Stimpy (84501) 12.30pm Rugrats (97327) 1.00 Clarissa Explains it All (37308) 1.30 Mission Top Secret (89693) 2.00 The Adventures of Pete and Pete (7414) 2.30 Odyssey (4292) 3.00 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (6621) 3.30 Nickelodeon (6533) 4.00 You Choose (6872) 4.30 Rugrats (4056) 5.00 Doug (5768) 5.30 Real Monsters (8508) 6.00 Rocko's Modern Life (904106) 6.18 Nickelivel (852365) 6.30-7.00 Roundhouse (8501)

SKY SOAPS 4

4.00pm Reaching for the Skies (3385312) 5.00 Nature Watch (2491037) 5.30 An Artistic Ride (1457679) 6.00 Rove (6938149) 7.00 Jurassic (2404501) 7.30 History's Mysteries (147059) 8.00 Connections 2 (2480921) 9.00 Voyager — The World of National Geographic (2405005) 9.00 Discovery Days (9190414) 10.00 Niggles (2328785) 10.30 World of Adventures (2305105) 11.00-12.00 Beyond 2000 (8982679)

SKY SOAPS 5

12.00 Cartoon (5536785) 1.00pm The Wild Wild West (5512105) 2.00 The New Avengers (2322021) 3.00 Get Smart (2483018) 3.30 Car 54, Where Are You? (1466834) 4.00 FILM: Spellbound (1945): Alfred Hitchcock's gripping thriller. Starring Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck (2487854) 6.00 FILM: The Paradine Case (1947): A lawyer finds himself falling for a woman accused of murder. Starring Gregory Peck and Ann Todd. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock (9189747) 8.00 FILM: Notorious (1946): Ingrid Bergman and Cary Grant star in Hitchcock's classic thriller about a Nazi during the spies (91992) 10.00-12.00 FILM: The Horror of Frankenstein (1970): Horror starring Ralph Bates (8165114)

SKY SOAPS 6

6.00am Best of Agony Hour (8386124) 7.00 Living (7305768) 9.00 Bazaar (9958106) 9.30 All Well and Good (8686878) 10.00 Best of Anne and Nick (7915018) 12.05pm Best of Kilroy (4675124) 1.00 The New Mr and Mrs Show (7305768) 1.30 How You See It (84028683) 1.55 John Peel Today (3324501) 2.30 The Ornamental Kitchen Garden (8517327) 3.00 FILM: Lane In Love: A high-flying business-woman's search for love (2918747) 4.40 Gladrags and Glamour (73056292) 5.00 Come Dancing (6491679) 5.30 The New Mr and Mrs Show (8511143) 6.00 Last Visit (8000414) 7.00 Intrusion UK (6474143) 7.30 Brookside Omnibus (9728582) 9.00 Cagney and Lacey (9047756) 10.00 Charlie's Angels (9040853) 11.00-12.00 Love Life (7818230)

SKY SOAPS 7

8.00am The Big Dish (2124) 8.30 Blade Warriors (39392) 8.50 The Wonder Years (1596) 7.00 The Darling Buds of May (97040) 8.00 Perfect Scoundrels (43392) 9.00 Sierra (83124) 10.00 FILM: The White Tower (1950): A group of climbers sets out to tackle a peak in the Alps (22476) 11.50 Borderlown (4419492) 12.30pm 3D Together Now (1940490) 12.50 The Wonder Years (6458490) 1.20 Trivial Pursuit (8279187) 1.50 FILM: The White Tower: As 10am (8190790) 3.40 Borderlown (86324585) 4.10-6.00 All Together Now (4138416)

SKY SOAPS 8

7.00am Mad Mutch Weekend (944785) 9.30 News (21785) 10.00 The Big Picture (29479) 10.30 European Top 20 Countdown (19059) 12.30pm First Look (28501) 1.00 Sports (84037) 1.30 Mad Mutch Weekend (44956) 4.30 The Slate (72035) 5.00 The Real World 3 (4582) 5.30 News (1380) 6.00 US Top 20 Video Countdown (51369) 8.00 120 Minutes (58534) 10.00 Beavis and Butt-Head (77478) 10.30 Headbangers Ball (221850) 1.00am VJ Hugo (21083) 2.00-7.00 Night Videos (9776709)

SKY SOAPS 9

7.00am Breakfast in Bed (6282306) 9.30 Sunday Brunch (30210182) 11.30 Ten of the Best: Sting (1732498) 1.00pm Into the Music (3183934) 1.30 Jonathan Ross Presents (4151105) 4.00 The Best of the Bridge (4003286) 5.00 Prime Cuts (7319959) 6.00 Around and Around (1738670) 7.00 Album Chart (9931906) 9.00 Rock Stories: Yardbirds (8581940) 10.00 Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way? (9041357) 11.00 Night Music (1122382) 12.00-6.00am The Green Machine (4618970)

SKY SOAPS 10

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including 5.00pm Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

SKY SOAPS 11

6.00am Persian Dawn (83982399) 7.00 Jagran (88582992) 7.30 Shabadi (88544327) 8.00 Nuthi Bhar Sitare (76084593) 8.30 Udan Choo (76083634) 9.00 Spootrum Sports (76087414) 9.30 Ver Ver Parivar (81910936) 10.00 Fasale (88583211) 11.00 Workplan (34677222) 11.30 Aaj Ki Adalat (34678921) 12.00 Sang Tere Naam (75067550) 12.30pm Krishna (81914124) 1.00 Sikh and White Movie: Pussies (88586652) 4.00 Bimagi April Best (75811569) 4.30 Dekh Bhai Dekh (76817747) 5.00 Baap Re Baap (82564143) 5.30 India Show (75831327) Chal Parmesh (76821940) 6.30 Khubsoorat (76812292) 7.00 Chakravyuha (92551679) 7.30 Top Ten (56494256) 8.30 Tere (92545834) 9.00 Hindi Movie: Lamhe (33281394) 12.00 Rang Tarang (17422276) 1.00-6.00am Sight and Sound (76183341)

SKY SOAPS 12

Continuous cartoons from 9am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

Theme: Eerie Tales

7.00pm Manpower (1941): Nightclub hostess Marlene Dietrich comes between friends George Raft and Edward G. Robinson who daily risk their lives repairing high-tension lines and who each wants Marlene to himself (1681 4501) 9.00 The Little Hut (1957): A version on the eternal triangle humorously overplayed. David Niven, Ava Gardner and Stewart Granger play a husband, a wife and her lover shipwrecked on a desert island in this sophisticated comedy. Directed by Mark Robson (76848760) 11.00 Between Two Women (1937): Melodrama about a surgeon torn between a morried nurse and a rich girl. Starring Maureen O'Sullivan (91374601) 12.45am We Were Dancing (1942): Norma Shearer plays a Polish princess who is engaged to be married but who runs off with gigolo Melvyn Douglas (90647254) 2.30-5.00 Eliza (1937): Drama about the sparks that fly between electric linesman. Starring Pat O'Brien and Henry Fonda (42881070)

SKY SOAPS 13

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.30pm Food Guide (2278269) 12.55-1.00 Anglia News and Weather (15194679) 2.00 Weekend Plus (5300) 2.30 Kick-Off (88115853) 3.30 Ski-Time (8164583) 5.30 Animal Country (943853) 5.15-5.35 Anglia News on Sunday, Weather Week (564478) 12.00am Street Legal (73728) 1.00 Def-Con 4 (3940999) 2.35 The Album Show (8727273) 3.35 Hollywood Report (17764167) 4.05 The Chart Show (9381341) 5.00-6.30 Eye TV (69146)

CENTRAL
As London except: 12.30pm Central Newsweek (2272502) 12.55-1.00 Central News and Weather (15194679) 2.00 It's Your Show (8832489) 5.35 The Central Match - Live (60472389) 6.00 Heartland (5740) 6.30 Knight Rider (16562) 8.30-8.35 Central News and Weather (4259124) 12.35am The Manhunter (489526) 2.20 Cue the Music (6086273) 3.20 Hollywood Report (88360728) 3.50 Jobfinder (92506032) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (74231489)

GRANADA
As London except: 10.15 Link (1008909) 10.30 A Mortalion (39747) 11.30 Sunday Brunch (84061605) 12.25pm-1.00 God's Mossengers (84886262) 2.00 The A-Team (39010181) 2.50 The Granada Match - Live (10111414) 5.30 Coronation Street (16582) 6.30-6.35 Granada News (429124) 11.00 The South Bank Show (70288) 12.00am Wanted: Dead or Alive (81586999) 12.35 The Manhunter (489526) 2.20 Cue the Music (6086273) 3.20 Hollywood Report (88360728) 3.50 Get Stuffed (12668612) 3.55-5.30 A Touch of Larceny (600051)

HTV WEST
As London except: 12.25pm Meradith on Sunday (1699921) 12.55-1.00 HTV West Headlines and Weather (15194679) 2.00 Gateways (9350) 2.30 The West Match (734959) 5.30 Magnum (414) 6.00 Animal Country (327) 6.30-6.35 HTV West Headlines and Weather (4259124) 12.00am Married with Children (81586999) 12.30 The Manhunter (489526) 2.20 Cue the Music (6086273) 3.20 Hollywood Report (88360728) 3.50 Get Stuffed (12668612) 3.55-5.30 A Touch of Larceny (600051)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 12.25pm Primetime Diary (1699921) 12.55-1.00 HTV Wales News and Weather (15194679) 2.00 Welsh Agenda (9350) 2.30 Soccer Sunday (10981143) 5.10 Magnum (8257879) 6.00 Welsh & Wealthy (327) 6.30-6.35 HTV Wales News and Weather (4259124)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 12.30 Seven Days (1598786) 12.55-1.00 Meridian News and Weather (15194679) 2.00 Sunday Brunch (30210182) 4.00 Ten of the Best: Sting (1732498) 1.00pm Into the Music (3183934) 1.30 Jonathan Ross Presents (4151105) 4.00 The Best of the Bridge (4003286) 5.00 Prime Cuts (7319959) 6.00 Around and Around (1738670) 7.00 Album Chart (9931906) 9.00 Rock Stories: Yardbirds (8581940) 10.00 Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way? (9041357) 11.00 Night Music (1122382) 12.00-6.00am The Green Machine (4618970)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 12.30pm Newsweek (1699921) 2.00 Yesterday's Heroes (9360) 2.30 The Tyne Tees Match Live (10117698) 5.05 Cartoon (8627018) 5.10 Wanted: Dead or Alive (8240653) 6.05-6.35 Tyne Tees Weekend (4259018) 12.00am Quiz Night (28273) 12.30 The Best of Benny Hill 1.30 Zara Phyan Dain (8914490) 1.40 Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke (7091602) 4.30-5.30 Jobfinder (33644)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update (2278269) 12.55-1.00 Westcountry News and Weather (15194679) 2.00 Wish You Were Here? (9360) 2.30 Magicians, Halloween and Mermaids (2971853) 2.45 Silver Streak (54968747) 5.00 Getaways (9740) 5.30 The Exchange Preview (129227) 5.35 Tribal Dwelling Investigates (888468) 5.50-6.35 Westcountry News (429124) 6.45-9.00 ITN News; Weekend Weather (891803) 12.00am Coach (8185099) 12.35 The Manhunter (489526) 2.20 Cue the Music (6086273) 3.20 Hollywood Report (88360728) 3.50 Get Stuffed (12668612) 3.55-5.30 A Touch of Larceny (600051)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.25pm-12.50 Kickabout (1614988) 12.30 Highway (4738327) 2.55 Silver Streak (87386258) 5.05 Cartoon (8527018) 5.10 Murder, She Wrote (8240653) 6.05-6.35 Calendar (75616) 12.00am Quiz Night (28273) 12.30 The Best (1699984) 1.35 Zara Phyan Dain (8914490) 1.40 Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke (73016893) 4.30-5.30 Jobfinder (33644)

S4C
Starts: 7.15 Chigley (1087621) 7.30 Madeline (6141766) 7.55 Postman Pat (5477487) 8.15 Inspector Gadget (4628360) 8.40 Wise Up (8754921) 8.55 Rawhide (3533563) 10.00 Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Dew (4579747) 11.30 Babylon 5 (8878211) 12.15pm Little House on the Prairie (330389) 1.10 Boy Meets World (378389) 1.45 Football Italia (52456853) 4.00 Encounters: The Glens Hunters (9811) 5.00 Dechrau Canu Dechrau Canmol (8682) 5.30 Pobol Y Cwm (20280808) 7.25 Penwythnos Mawr (122650) 8.15 I'R Byw A Ces Hedrych? (6481416) 8.45 Newyddion (245785) 8.50 Glan Hafran Ar Y Dtyn (812501) 9.00 Salih Ar Y Sul (2982992) 10.15 Ban Stellan (800958) 10.30 The Great Pot Debate (45785) 11.30 Pot Night: A Last Though the Century (34756) 12.00am Pot Night: High Fashion (5472898) 12.05 Pot Night: A Rock And A Hard Place (4630782) 12.30 Pot Night: Weed It Out (1994812) 12.35 Pot Night: Pulse Special — Forbidden Medicine (8164693) 1.00 Pot Night: John Ventures (89028)

TUESDAY MARCH 7

CHOICE: Travels with a Trabant; crime buster

US detective caught in a vice-like grip

To appease the reader who accuses this column of a campaign against the balding Australian, let me say that **Clive James — Postcard From Berlin** (BBC1, 9.30pm) contains one of his funniest routines as well as a numbing moment when jokes are laid aside and the brutality of the Third Reich comes starkly to the surface. The running gag is built around the Trabant car, an evil-smelling rattletrap that has been swept away with the rest of the former East Germany. An obvious prop, but James exploits it brilliantly. Abruptly switching the mood, he shows us the prison where opponents of Hitler were confined and the hooks from which they were hanged. Easy giggles at a nudist beach soon follow but even at his most flippant, James is never dull.

Promising an "endless array of magically spiced foods", **Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India** (BBC2, 8.30pm, see feature page 5) begins a culinary tour of India in Kerala. Here is the land of spices, but also the land of coconuts. Both feature strongly in Jaffrey's dishes, cooked out of doors in the manner of Keith Floyd. The frequent diversions into topography and culture are also Floydian, though there the similarity ends. Jaffrey may be an actress but she makes Floyd seem like a ham. She is an enthusiastic presenter who knows her subject down to the last grain of black pepper.

For 25 years the unfortunately-named Fred Clapp was a detective with the Los Angeles police. His speciality was the vice trade and his daily contact was with hookers, pimps and madams. Inventive and resourceful, he organised stings which have passed into LA legend. He once arrested 23 call girls by luring them to a non-existent party. He made a colleague dress up as an Ethiopian prince to help a drugs bust. But work became an obsession. In **Network First: Hollywood Vice** (ITV, 10.40pm) Clapp admits that he felt more comfortable with police life than home life. The penalties were two failed marriages and strained relationships with his sons. The testimonies of the wives, the sons, fellow cops and a gravel-voiced madam make their contribution to a garish story.

The restaurant critic of *The Times* takes over the *J'Accuse* slot of **Without Walls** (Channel 4, 9pm) to let us know where he stands on vegetarians. In a nutshell, Jonathan Meades thinks they are nuts, and sanctimonious with it. He even brings in Adolf Hitler, "the most influential vegetarian of the 20th century", a lover of animals but not of human beings. Vegetarians hit back by comparing battery chicken farms to the gas chambers of Auschwitz. Which should give the flavour of a film that is lively, combative and often very funny.

PETER WAYMARK



Hollywood Detective Fred Clapp owns up (ITV, 10.40pm)

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (84754)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95380026)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (5411397)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7606378) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8806281) **10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick.** Weekday magazine presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (s) (7221945)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1664736) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Gloria Hunniford (s) (7430649) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15063765)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (79910)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (77880129) **1.50 Going for Gold.** Henry Kelly asks the general knowledge questions (s) (77884945)

2.15 FILM: Perry Mason — The Case of the Lethal Lesson (1989) starring Raymond Burr and Barbara Hale. The legal eagle defends a young law student accused of murder. The case is made more difficult by the interfering of the man's former fiancée. Directed by Christian I Nyby II. (Ceefax) (628484)

3.50 Jackanory. Kathy Burke with part one of *The Twits* (s) (6080823) **4.00 Willy Fogg.** (Ceefax) (9217620) **4.25 Grimmy** (4481804) **4.35 Incredible Games.** (Ceefax) (s) (1709939)

5.00 Newsround (8079007) **5.10 Grange Hill.** School drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (8116303)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6049910). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

5.50 Ok'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (197)

6.30 Regional news magazines (587). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Holiday. Reports from Torquay, a sail cruise around the Galapagos, sunning in Sitges on the Costa Dorada and skiing in Morzine, France. (Ceefax) (s) (8378)

7.30 EastEnders. Blanca goes missing. (Ceefax) (s) (571)

8.00 A Question of Sport. David Coleman, Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Darren Gough, Colin McRae, Tim Flowers and Judy Oakes. (Ceefax) (s) (7026)

8.30 Shut That Door — A Tribute to Larry Grayson. A celebration of the career of the camp comic performer, introduced by Michael Barrymore. (Ceefax) (8533)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5741)

9.30 [redacted] Clive James — Postcard From Berlin. (Ceefax) (s) (1285542). **Wales:** Week In Week Out (36804) 10.00 Clive James (612115) 10.50 Omnibus (889674) 11.40-1.15am Film: Crosspilot (704620)

10.20 Omnibus: Joshua Bell. A documentary profile of the young American violinist. (Ceefax) (174129). **Northern Ireland:** Country Times 10.45 29 Bedford Street 11.10 Omnibus 12.05am-1.40 Film: Crosspilot

11.10 FILM: Crosspilot (1969) starring Roger Moore. Thriller about a London advertising executive helping to stop an assassination attempt on a visiting African statesman. Directed by Alvin Rakoff (132194)

12.45am Weather (1880601)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Maths (7443674) **6.45** Learning for All: Under the Walnut Tree (2208658) **7.10** From Child to Pupil (5416804) **7.35** Art in the 15th Century: Florence (5199129)

8.00 BBC Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (6790939)

8.15 Westminster On-Line With Sir Bernard Ingham (s) (4271262)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Standard Grade Geography (3200552) **9.25** Around Scotland (6555991) **9.45** You and Me (5637486) **10.00** Playdays (8997587) **10.25** English Express (1945823) **10.45** The Experimenters (4178376) **11.05** Space Ark — Changes in Material (6941378) **11.15** Music Makers (8062216) **11.35** Seeing Through Science (9480129) **12.00** See Hear! (39084) **12.30** Working Lunch (47910) **1.00** Teaching Today (77552) **1.30** Q and A (26377620) **1.40** You and Me (66543262) **1.45** Numbers Plus (25398755) **2.00** Gordon T. Gopher (67132552)

2.10 Horizon: Exodus (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3285216)

3.00 News and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross.** (Ceefax) (4393571) **3.50** News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8086465)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (200)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook. Creative cuisine series (s) (464)

5.00 Esther. Studio discussion series (s) (9484)

5.30 Catchword. Word game presented by Paul Coia (736)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. American teen comedy (s) (144194)

6.25 Heartbreak High. Australian high school drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (697113)

7.10 The Tick. Animated adventures (s) (7972602)

7.30 [redacted] The Knowledge. A series lifting the lid on education. (Ceefax) (s) (113)

8.00 Public Eye: Silent Partners. Wendy Robbins reports on the people looking after relatives suffering from severe mental illness. (Ceefax) (5668)

8.30 [redacted] Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India. (Ceefax) (s) (8213)

9.00 Murder Most Horrid II: A Severe Case of Death. A black comedy starring Dawn French, John Fortune and Timothy West (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8113)

9.30 World Figure Skating Championships from Birmingham featuring the pairs' short programme. The commentators are Alan Weeks and Barry Davies (62303)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (773194)

11.15 The Late Show. An assessment of the influence of the Government-funded television advertisements in Northern Ireland urging the public to pass on information on terrorism (s) (731868)

11.55 Weather (344674)

12.00 Modern Art. Musée D'Orsay (4580885)

12.25am Introduction to Computer Aided Design (4583972)

12.55 The Record. The day in Parliament presented by Michael Fairbairn (s) (3040205). Ends at 1.30

2.00-4.00 Night School: Modern Languages (70801)

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7862533)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3207465) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8801736)

10.00 The Time... the Place. John Stapleton presides over a studio audience as they debate a topical issue (s) (7009218)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine with Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (28686587) (4371705) **11.22** Stage One (3591691) **11.38** Schools at Work (5189533) **11.45** First Edition (4203859)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine series chaired by Maya Even (25200)

12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early learning (78533) **1.30 Widget** (r) (s) (56984028)

1.55 Pete Smith Specialties (b/w). Curious Contests takes a look at odd games from around the world; Tips on Trips offers advice to soldiers when sent abroad (77703029)

2.20 FILM: The Moon Is Down (1943, b/w) starring Cedric Hardwicke. A Second World War propaganda film about the Norwegian Resistance movement. Directed by Irving Pichel (7056887)

4.00 Profiles of Nature: The Grey Seals of Sable Island. A wildlife documentary, two years in the making, in which a team of experts from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, filmed the annual migration of the grey seal herds to Sable Island, off Nova Scotia (r) (868)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (562)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. The guests are a mother and the nanny she fired because she thought she was usurping her role. (Teletext) (s) (8122113)

5.50 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons (867633)

6.00 Babylon 5. American science-fiction adventure series. (Teletext) (s) (245113)

6.55 Terrytoons featuring Deputy Dawg (467842)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (715642) **7.50 The Slot** (7696610)

8.00 Classic Motorcycles. Programme three of the seven-part series features British-made machines. Narrated by Timothy Spall (r). (Teletext) (s) (2858)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (2571)

9.00 [redacted] Without Walls: Auto Erotic (2951) **9.30 J'accuse the Vegetarians** (62842)

10.00 FILM: Close My Eyes (1990) starring Alan Rickman, Saskia Reeves and Clive Owen. A drama about a brother and sister who are drawn to one another. They struggle to overcome their feelings but the woman's husband suspects she is having an affair. Directed by Stephen Poliakoff. (Teletext) (4633)

12.00 The Obituary Show. A mock celebratory obituary of Sir Jimmy Savile (r) (s) (8017885)

12.35am Football Italia — Mezzanotte. Highlights of Reggiana v Genoa (2397779)

1.35 Blood Sweat and Glory. A history of martial arts (r) (s) (2223427).

2.05 FILM: Black Eyes (1939, b/w) starring Otto Kruger and Mary Maguire. A drama set in pre-Revolutionary Moscow about the head waiter of a fashionable restaurant who hides from his daughter the fact that the bulk of his income comes from his pandering of wealthy diners. Herbert Brenon directs (4165866). Ends 3.25

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (2200674)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (69533)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (12736)

9.30 Schools: Eureka! (5634) **9.45** Stop, Look Listen (5622533) **10.00** Fourways Farm (7813688) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (1951484) **10.25** Time Capsule (1930691) **10.45** Coming Together (4977652) **11.00** Science in Focus (4371705) **11.22** Stage One (3591691) **11.38** Schools at Work (5189533) **11.45** First Edition (4203859)

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TUESDAY MARCH 7

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (33129) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (40359) **8.30** Blockbusters (49804) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (99571) **10.00** Concentration (81281) **10.30** Card Sharks (69568) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (15738) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (43620) **12.30pm** Anything but Love (92484) **1.00** St Elsewhere (97939) **2.00** Dealings of the Gods (82910) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (54565871) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (9890026) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (3552) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (34629) **6.00** Garrideweld (7948) **6.30** Family Ties (5397) **7.00** Rescue (41594) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4281) **8.00** The X-Files (27194) **9.00** Models, Inc (10858) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (13945) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (938194) **11.50** Littleyslin (613553) **12.40am** Chronicle (3799576) **1.30** The New WKRP in Cincinnati (23999) **2.00-5.00** Hit Me Long Play (5218412)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (1637995) **9.30** Fashion TV (38474) **10.30** ABC Nightline (50410) **1.30pm** CBS News (56213) **2.30** Paramount Love (62979) **5.05** Behind Lifestyles (19533262) **6.30** OJ Simpson Trial Live (763804) **12.30am** CBS News (99015/6) **1.10** Entertainment This Week (8673/98) **2.30** Parliament Today (10717) **4.30** CBS News (39224) **5.30** ABC News (80682)

SKY MOVIES

6.15am Showcase (48737316) **10.00 Murder So Sweet** (1993) Chloe plays a cancer who brutally terminates a lady-killer (98200) **12.00 Bushfire Moon** (1987) A Victorian family Christmas in the Australian outback (85113) **2.00 Comeback** (1978) The Cannonballs come to Earth with the intention of conquering it, but get ensnared in the loveliness of suburbia (31397) **4.00 Dusty** (1982) About a wild dingo raised by Bill Kerr (84133858) **5.55 Murder So Sweet** (1993) As 10am (27588842) **7.30 Close-Up:** Harrison Ford on The Fugitive (6649) **8.00 Comeback:** As 2pm (58726) **9.30 All Shook Up!** (1993) A sexy young model bursts into the life of a hotel clerk (6521269) **11.05 Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday** (1993) Reborn of the murderous teenager (624197) **12.35 Off and Running** (1990) Offbeat comedy with Cyrinn Lauper pursued by her boyfriend's killers (5869224) **2.05 Chud II: Bud the Chud** (1989) Two teenage boys steal a formula from a government research lab in this horror comedy (2861088) **3.30 Shattered Silence** (1992) Bonnie Bedelia as a mother who suspects her daughter is being abused by her former husband (877583)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm It Started with Eve (1941) Deanna Durbin poses as Robert Cumming's bride to please his dying father Charles Laughton in this romantic comedy (11755) **8.00-12.00 Giant** (1956) George Stevens's epic drama with James Dean, Rock Hudson and Elizabeth Taylor about a ranch-hand who strikes oil (3043023)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Tarl Kled of Woman (1992) Drama starring Tab Hunter as a soldier who falls in love with Sophie Loren (53939) **8.00 Beauty and the Beast** Animated fairy-tale (3656262) **8.50 Sinbad: Curse of the Seven Seas** (4626459) **9.40 Lucy Gallant** (1955) Jane Wyman is a dressmaker who is better at business than love (94351646) **11.30 Terzan and the Lost Safari** (1957) Tarzan tracks a party of crash-landed passengers out of the jungle (8721561) **12.55 Avalanche** (1978) A party of children go missing while skiing (32853303) **2.00 Watermelon Nn. Three** (1967) James Coburn stars in this spoof Western (30939) **4.00 Beauty and the Beast** As 8am (93228) **5.00 Blrdsel** As 8.50am (2360) **6.50 The Cutting Edge** (1992) A retired ice hockey player and a selfish skater team up (15303) **8.00 Sidekicks** (1993) Teenager Jonathan Brandis dreams of being the movie side-kick of Chuck Norris (94666674) **9.35 Lethal Weapon 3** (1992) Mel Gibson and Danny Glover battle against a cop turned crime baron (526116) **11.35 Bugsy** (1991) Epic drama with Warren Beatty as Bugsy Siegal, the New York gangster who built Las Vegas (93419376) **1.50 A Passion for Murder** (1992) Thriller with a young woman on the run after her politician lover is accidentally killed (564514) **3.25 Jumpin' at the Boneyard** (1991) The story of two young brothers who live in the Bronx (19834330)

SKY SOAPS

7.00am Soccer News (4953007) **7.15** WWF Mania (914303) **8.15** Soccer News (2978739) **8.30** World of Speed and Beauty (76753) **9.00** Snowboard Tour (69007) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (99207) **10.00** Golf USA (55741) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (72571) **12.30pm** Monday Night Football: Liverpool v Southampton (99991) **2.30** US Grand Prix Athletics (99339) **4.30** Stunt Team Championship (9642) **5.00** WWF Superstars (2991) **6.00** Soccer News (6732281) **6.15** Fish Tales (6787/36) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (2007) **7.00** Boots 'n' All (63310) **8.00** Polo Pavilion (52858) **9.00** The Footballers' Football Show (99194) **10.00** Soccer News (3981/75) **10.15** Torvill and Dean (4329399) **11.15** Grass Roots Rugby (581484) **11.45** Fish Tales (91313) **12.00** Boots 'n' All (77392) **1.00-2.00am** Polo Pavilion (61427)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogolf Magazine (37736) **8.30** Aerobics (54755) **9.30** Dancing (97378) **10.30** Football (85736) **12.00** Live Figure Skating (1862823) **5.00pm** Football (67667) **6.30** Eurosport News (3303) **7.00** Live Figure Skating (489645) **10.00** Eurosko (64549) **11.00** Snooker (45991) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (22205)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4482820) **12.30pm** Zoo Life with Jack Hanna (1788674) **1.00** Trailside — Make Your Own Adventure (9085128) **1.30** Cook Italian (1787945) **2.00** California's Gold (72789658) **2.30** Discover Your World (4114674) **3.00** American Vacation (4922939) **4.00** Travel Guide (4930206) **4.30** Life with Frank Herne (4021910) **5.00** Roads to Freedom (7252620) **5.30** Cook Italian (4012262) **6.00** Getaway — Australia (4115333) **6.30** Ticket to Paradise (4033756) **7.00** Discover America (6904842) Around the World in 30 Minutes (7258904) **8.30** Travel Guide (7277939) **9.00** Getaway — Australia (4003859) **9.30** Ticket to Paradise (1656910) **10.00** Discover America (5963113) **11.00** Roads to Freedom (4009303) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (4859010)

THE HORROR CHANNEL

8.00am Loving (4489533) **8.30** Peyton Place (4488504) **9.00** As the World Turns (4694282) **10.00** Guiding Light (99986449) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9901113)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

9.00am Room Service (22779736) **9.20** The Rour Brothers (54805552) **10.00** Jimmy's (22019101) **10.30** Only Human (15791112) **11.30** Discovering Psychology (58811) **12.00** Youth Express (22822000) **12.30pm** House Style (54916669) **1.00** The Rour Brothers (8942674) **1.30** Room Service (54809398) **2.00** A Change of Mind (22199393) **3.00** Shout the Mob (22307735) **3.30-4.00** Twenty Country The North York Moors. With Tim Grundy (13222652)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8849833) **7.30** Neighbours (88889898) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2281571) **8.30** EastEnders (2280782) **9.00** The Bill (2271194) **9.30** Sutherland's Law (5290376) **10.30** Angels (1371671) **11.30** Terry and June (1759133) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (23848581 **12.30pm** Neighbours (54630826) **1.00** EastEnders (88488844) **1.30** The Bill (5492397) **2.00** After Henry (24466577) **2.30** Forget Me Not (1224405) **3.00** Knots Landing (3664769) **4.00** Dallas (9165754) **5.00** Every Second Counts (91346858) **5.30** Dick Emery (7639716) **6.00** Hi-De-Hi (42205587) **6.30** Fast Enders (1417674) **7.00** Keep It in the Family (24403003) **7.30** Help! (14128655) **8.00** After Henry (82636823) **8.30** Only Fools and Horses (94459558) **9.00** The Sweeney (91422169) **10.00** The Bill (23855687) **10.30** Top of the Pops (5689787) **11.20** Cool II (66545852) **12.00** Dr Who (37662443) **12.30am** FILM: Blind Encounter (1945): Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard are strangers who fall in love (1583166) **2.00-3.00** Shopping at Night (5893683)

THE LEARNING CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (62330007) **6.55** Garfield and Friends (78932881) **7.25** Eek the Cat (5861842) **7.55** Dogtrssel Junior High (5681674) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (47406668) **8.45** Casper and Friends (19485711) **9.05** Sesame Street (62465) **10.00** It's Dropsee Time (36007) **12.00** Garfield and Friends (98937) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (27587) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (481167) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83837307) **1.45** Baby Follies (83825552) **2.05** Barney and Friends (3262) **2.30** Babe (4484) **3.00** Casper and Friends (11422165) **3.15** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (754378) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (753649) **4.15** Head To Head in 3D (1675939) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (4620)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickelvel (4951648) **7.15** Pee Wee's Playhouse (982303) **7.45** Rugrats (951674) **8.15** Doug (957378) **8.45** Nickelvel (8759216) **9.00** Nick Jr (728974) **12.00** Pee Wee's Playhouse (70113) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (90485) **1.00** Smoggies (44216) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (99736) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (3674) **2.30** Gabwy High School (88068) **3.00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (92681) **3.30** Turtles Gold (3113) **4.00** Doug (22620) **4.30** Rugrats (68034) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (10282) **5.30** Nickelvel (24664) **6.00** Grimmy (93977) **6.30-7.00** Dracula (51769)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

4.00pm Birdscape (1414687) **4.30** From Monkeys to Apes (1330571) **5.00** The Blue Revolution (91410939) **6.00** Blue and 2000 (4745552) **7.00** Earth Tremors (91-34674) **8.00** Nature Watch (2351485) **8.30** Voyager (2362200) **9.00** First Flights (4014209) **9.30** The X Planes (5471884) **10.00** Discovery Journal (91438465) **11.00-12.00** Charlottes: Islands out of Time (8868823)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

12.00 FILM: The Slime People (1963). Prehistoric monsters terror (63291298) **1.30pm** Brothers Brothers (54874662) **2.00** Thirtysomething (2265644) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2347262) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (3326378) **4.00** FILM: Dr Goldfoot and the Girl Bombs (1966). Starring Vincent Price (8630552) **5.30** Drama Classics (1329846) **6.00** Get Smart (31182262) **6.30** Police Women (1639587) **7.30** Honey West (13360039) **8.00** Thirtysomething (90446820) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (71146868) **9.30-12.00** FILM: Modesty Blaise (1966): Monica Vitti as the girl detective (7479253)

THE HORROR CHANNEL

8.00am Agony Hour (8265968) **7.00** Living (8760526) **9.00** Health UK (9687787) **9.30** Rendezvous (50630188) **9.00** Front Gardens (22034203) **9.30** Kate and Allie (75321941) **10.00** Now You See It (10686810) **10.30** Susan Powter (46370844) **11.00** Young and Restless (7269281) **12.00** A Cook's Tour (8622621) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (48415549) **1.05** Money (94631841) **2.00** Agony Hour (11148842) **3.00** Living (7846804) **3.45** Gladrags (65345649) **4.10** Inhalation (9462823) **4.30** Crossells (93372007) **4.55** Super Energy (76335751) **5.30** Mr and Mrs Show (72912000) **6.05** Susan Powter (8604674) **6.30** Brookside (94855782) **7.00** Living (99120026) **8.00** Young and Restless (9094674) **9.00** FILM: Maid in America (1982): Romantic comedy (98325649) **10.50** Sneak Scenes (80728223) **11.00** Brookside (1784684) **11.30-12.00** Inhalation UK (51443397)

THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL

5.00am Dangermouse (7842) **5.30** Where I Live (8200) **6.00** The Black Stallion (97748-6) **6.25** All Clued Up (5787/65) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (4378) **7.30** My Two Dads (29548) **8.00** Chitty (94856) **9.00** Moonlighting (11874) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (9926) **10.30** DP (24656) **11.00** Lou Grant (12484) **12.00** Reads (84235) **12.30pm** Sky Brother Jake (52972) **1.00** Dangermouse (4104) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (64243) **2.00** Moonlighting (75504) **3.00** Lou Grant (81601) **4.00** Reads (382243) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (382235)

THE LEARNING CHANNEL

8.00am Awake on the Wildside (65473) **8.30** The Grind (95842) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (11378) **8.00** VJ Jnno (542533) **11.00** The Soul (45179) **12.00** Greatest Hits (35552) **1.00pm** The Afternoon Mix (2638421) **3.00** Coca Cola Report (61093355) **3.45** Chemmies (86382) **4.00** News (17560674) **4.15** 3 From 1 (1677397) **4.30** Dial (3378) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (21755) **6.30** Sports (8823) **7.00** Greatest Hits (14559) **8.00** News (17560674) **8.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (36281) **10.00** Coca Cola Report (53037) **10.15** Chemmie (5285533) **10.30** Top Of the Pops (4987) **11.00** 3 From 1 (1677397) **11.00** The End? (77571) **1.00am** The Soul of MTV (10935) **2.00** The Grind (14021) **2.30-5.00** Night Videos (9501396)

THE HORROR CHANNEL

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (99042000) **9.00** Café (8228552) **12.00** The Bridge (78773376) **1.35pm** Ten of the Best (86384184) **2.30** Heart and Soul (37062262) **3.30** Into the Music (87831133) **6.00** Prime Cuts (15922332) **7.00** For You (5906200) **8.00** Rock (58258200) **9.00** Ten of the Best (99209484) **10.00** The Bridge (4607736) **11.30** The Nightly (4608455) **1.30am** Ten of the Best (5880666) **2.30-7.00** Dawn Patrol (7933682)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Country music from 6am to 7pm, including 8.00pm Saturday Nite Dance Ranch 6.00-7.00 Big Ticket

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Parallel Dawn (62426633) **7.00** Asian Morning (83548910) **8.30** Hum Zamaan (79934378) **9.00** Hindi Movie: Chhalia (84132758) **12.00** Andaaz (76938194) **12.30pm** Mehndi (81856628) **1.00** Hindi Movie: Hamhoton Ki Lekeen (29120026) **4.00** Chahi (76782007) **4.30** Serial: Yugaster (78771991) **5.00** Kab Kyon Kahan (92586867) **6.00** Zee TV U (76785671) **6.00** Spectrum Sports (78792484) **8.30** Mussalah (78783739) **7.00** Video Junction (92418623) **7.30** Swayamvar 2000 (78772620) **8.00** News Bulletin (92405471) **8.30** Aradhana (92410376) **9.00** Campus (34461200) **9.30** Aap Ki Adalat (81868904) **10.00** Insight (76938623) **10.30** India Business Report (78946671) **11.00** Kachwa Aur Khargosh (34539845) **11.30** Krishna (49232884) **12.00** Asian Morning (30654224) **1.30-6.00am** Sight and Sound (74637048)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

Continuous cartoons from 8am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

Theme. Spotlight on Robert Walker

7.00 Her Highness and the Bellboy (1945): Princess Hedy Lamarr and romantic chaos in a New York hotel (16868945) **9.00 Bataan** (1943): Marines Robert Taylor and Robert Walker resist the Japanese on a Pacific island (76269910) **11.00** The Beginning or the End (1947): Drama about the scientists working on the first Atomic Bomb Starring Robert Walker and Brian Donlevy **12.45pm** Strangers on a Train (1951): What Next, Corporal Hargrove? (1945): Further comic adventures in the army with Keenan Wynn as the blundering Corporal (66240394) **2.30 Please Believe Me** (1950). A shipboard romance develops as Deborah Kerr is wooed by assorted bachelors (43835427)

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (8801738) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1653620) **1.55** A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (2352858) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6017668) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6267910) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (883668) **7.25-8.00** Food Guide (639) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (883113) **12.35am** The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean (96533411) **2.45** The Little Picture Show (7578311) **3.40** The Boat (84067/5) **4.30-5.00** Travel Trails (40708)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (8801738) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1653620) **1.55** A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (2352858) **3.25-3.30** Central News (6017668) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6267910) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (883668) **7.30-8.00** Heart of the Country (939) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (883113) **11.40-12.45pm** Come Dine With Me (4532/6) **4.20am** A Calendar (8239934) **6.20-6.30** Asian Eye (73873/2)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (8801738) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1653620) **12.55** Shortland Street (9111704) **1.25** Home and Away (6723111) **1.50** Weather (6016804) **2.20** Undercover Dairy (7405464) **2.50-3.20** Inspector Gadget (2602858) **3.25** Granada News (6017668) **3.30-3.40** The Magic Horse (5525/5) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6267910) **6.25** Granada Tonight (883668) **7.00** Emmerdale (6724) **7.30-8.00** The Main Ingredient (939) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (883113) **11.40** World Championship Boxing (45276) **12.45am** Interval a Match (416408) **2.30** The Little Picture Show (8678923) **3.25-3.50** America's Top Ten (6529390) **4.20** Jobfinder (6414806) **5.00-5.30** Varuses (26084)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (8801738) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (1653620) **2.25** Wish You Were Here ? (4752736) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7196030) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (6017668) **5.10-5.40** Country Practice (6267910) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (956) **7.30-8.00** West Eyo Wow (939) **10.30-10.40** HTV West Headlines and Weather (883113) **4.20am-5.00** Jobfinder (5004864)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 9.55-10.00 HTV Wales News (8801738) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV Wales News and Weather (1653620) **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (6017668) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (956) **7.30-8.00** Not Only But Also - The Lives of Dudley Moore and George Best (853-1946) (939) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (883113)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (8801738) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (1653484) **2.30** Heart and Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7352858) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6017668) **5.10** Home and Away (6267910) **5.40** Three Minutes - Making it Happen (950674) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (303) **6.30-7.00** Surprise Chefs (755) **7.30-8.00** Save Your Bacon (939) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (883113) **12.35am** The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean (66534311) **2.45** The Little Picture Show (7578311) **3.40** The Boat (84067/5) **4.30** Travel Trails (40708) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (26084)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7352858) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6267910) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (143381) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (755) **7.30-8.00** Action Time (939) **10.30-10.40** Tyne Tees News (883113) **11.40** Kojak: Ariana (464455) **1.25am** The Little Picture Show (6889798) **2.25** Sport (4615088) **3.25** The Boat (3346427) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder (8338663)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (8801736) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1876568) **12.32-12.30** My Story (1676939) **2.28** The Young Doctors (74787236) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News, Weather (6017668) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6267910) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (59755) **7.30-8.00** Wild West Country (939) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News: Weather (883113) **4.20am-5.00** Jobfinder (5084866)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7352858) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6267910) **5.55** Calendar **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (755) **7.30-8.00** Action Time (939) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (883113) **11.40** Kojak: Ariana (464455) **1.25am** The Little Picture Show (6889798) **2.25** Sport AM (6036058) **3.25** The Boat (3346427) **4.20-4.30** Jobfinder (8338670)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (69533) **9.00** You Bet You (47220) **12.05pm** House To House (25200) **12.30** Sbot Maithin (49378) **1.00** Little (82620) **1.30** Hangin' With Mr Cooper (48649) **2.00** The Last Late Show (59858) **3.00** The Real Holiday Show (99007) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (2902849) **4.20** Tetos Ol A Wes King (4485571) **4.50** Served By the Best - The New Class (552) **5.00** 5 Pump (4532) **5.30** Countdown (604) **8.00** Newyddion (502194) **8.15** Hwa (933399) **7.00** Dau Rhyw (Ar Fryd (2550) **8.30** Newyddion (7571) **9.00** Cutting Edge. Armorca (6007) **10.00** Brookside (30269) **10.30** Dan Tafod (79745) **11.30** The Soul Of The Tupo (54113)

SUNDAY MARCH 5

CHOICE: Wedding belle; titanic search for truth; Cuban missile crisis; classic comedy returns

Winners and losers in the race to the altar

After her late flowering as a novelist, Mary Wesley is proving equally successful as a source for audience-grabbing television drama. After *The Camomile Lawn* and *Harnessing Peacocks*, her latest work to hit the screen is **The Vacillations of Poppy Carew** (ITV, 9pm). Left a fortune by her father, Poppy (Tara Fitzgerald) is in the happy position of being able to choose between four potential suitors knowing that she will not have to marry any of them for their money. But picking winners is not her strong point. Handsomely filmed in England and Tunis, and meticulously directed by the reliable James Cellan-Jones, this is a shrewd concoction of romance, humour and fantasy.

It is 83 years since the *Titanic* sank off Newfoundland with the loss of 1,500 lives but the story refuses to die. **Encounters** (Channel 4, 7pm) follows an expedition led by a New England car dealer, George Tulloch, who won the legal right to salvage the wreck. Divers go out from a submarine 2½ miles below the sea to pick over the remains of the ship and gather artefacts for Tulloch's planned travelling exhibition of the *Titanic*'s treasures. Tulloch is also interested in how the disaster happened and feels that the *Titanic*'s captain, Edward Smith, may have been unfairly blamed.

Messengers From Moscow (BBC2, 10.30pm), the excellent Soviet-centred history of the Cold War, reaches the 1960s. Blocked by Nato in the west and at odds with China in the east, the Soviet Union turned to the Third World. Castro's revolution in Cuba took Moscow by surprise but Khrushchev was not slow in trying to exploit it in the name of world socialism. The programme suggests that the decision to site Soviet missiles in Cuba came before the Bay of Pigs fiasco and not as a riposte. In any case, the missile crisis ended in humiliation and hastened Khrushchev's downfall. The Soviet Union's intervention in the Vietnam war was no more successful.

There are hints that Jean and Lionel are finally heading for the altar in **As Time Goes By** (BBC1, 7pm). If they do, Bob Larbey's gentle comedy of middle-aged romance must surely come to an end because it has been largely sustained by the couple's indecision. Meanwhile the fourth series opens where the last one left off, with Jean and Lionel bickering about nothing very much.

PETER WAYMARK



Tara Fitzgerald is *Poppy Carew* (ITV, 9pm)

BBC1

7.30 Smoggies (r) (5158872) **7.55 Playdays** (r) (s) (5482785)

8.15 Breakfast with Frost. Sir David Frost interviews a person in the news. Includes **News** and weather at **8.15** and **9.00** (655394)

9.15 NEW **A Word in Season.** A series on preachers of the 1990s begins with the Rev Stephen Gaukrogor, President of the Baptist Union (s) (9005389)

10.00 See Hear! A chat show special from America. (Ceefax and signing) (s) (12563)

10.30 French Experience. French conversation (s) (4025143) **10.45 Who Learns Wins.** Learning new skills (s) (4020698)

11.00 NEW **The System on Trial.** The first of four programmes on legal services (s) (3259)

11.30 NEW **Bodyeounts.** Series about people who take a positive view of life, introduced by Elaine C. Smith (4360)

12.00 CountryFile with John Craven (s) (1600766)

12.25 Weather (1712327)

12.30 News followed by **On the Record** with John Humphrys. (Ceefax) (45495)

1.30 EastEnders (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8214921)

2.50 FILM: Fantastic Voyage (1966) starring Stephen Boyd, Raquel Welsch and Donald Pleasence. Drama, with Oscar-winning special effects, about a miniatunsed submarine injected into the bloodstream of a brain-damaged scientist. Directed by Richard Fleischer. (Ceefax) (40325583)

4.30 On the Set . . . of The Buccaneers. A behind-the-scenes look at the making of the BBC period serial. (Ceefax) (s) (1839124)

4.55 The Clothes Show. (Ceefax) (s) (1858259)

5.20 Antiques Roadshow visits Inverness. (Ceefax) (s) (3216066)

6.05 News (Ceefax) and weather (688056)

6.25 Songs of Praise from Wilmslow Methodist Church, Cheshire. (Ceefax) (s) (194582)

7.00 CHOICE **As Time Goes By.** (Ceefax) (s) (2308)

7.30 Pie in the Sky. (Ceefax) (s) (751211)

8.20 Only Fools and Horses. Del decides to dabble in the antiques business (r). (Ceefax) (s) (444740)

8.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (246580)

9.05 The Buccaneers. The final episode of the period drama. (Ceefax) (s) (820582)

10.05 A Bit of Fry and Laurie. Comedy sketches. (Ceefax) (s) (803018)

10.35 Heart of the Matter: Gene Genies. John Bakewell explores the darker side of genetic research (395872). **Northern Ireland:** A River of Sound 11.15 Heart of the Matter 11.55 Film: Love and Bullets 1.35-1.55 Sky at Night; **Wales:** Ment (577563) 11.05 Heart of the Matter (997414) 11.40 Film: Love and Bullets (647740) 1.20-1.40 Sky at Night (4076761)

11.10 FILM: Love and Bullets (1979) starring Charles Bronson, Rod Steiger and Jill Ireland. Thriller about a Phoenix City policeman in Switzerland on the trail of the former lover of a mobster who might have incriminating evidence about him. Directed by Stuart Rosenberg (470308)

12.50am Sky at Night. Dr Peter Cattermole with news about Mars (s) (4423693)

1.10 Weather (1952148)

BBC2

6.15 Open University: Pure Mathematics (7484921) **6.40** Maths Methods (2263143) **7.05** Maths (5560679) **7.30** Developing World: The Poverty Complex (515641) **7.55** Humanity and the Scaffold (5471679) **8.20** Networks: The Location Problem (4630105) **8.45** Child Development: Babies' Minds (2768124)

9.10-12.00 Children's BBC beginning with **Grimmy** (7216124) **9.25 The Artbox Bunch** (s) (7211679) **9.40 Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show** (r) (5630476)

10.00 For Amusement Only. Comedy and entertainment show (s) (8953143) **10.25 Grange Hill.** A 1983 episode of the school drama series (r) (9956230) **10.55 The Bizi** Drama series about the pupils of a disco and drama school (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4227698)

11.20 Short Change. Young people's consumer affairs magazine (6014037) **11.45 The O-Zone.** Pop music magazine (r) (s) (4241018)

12.00 Snowy River — The McGregor Saga. Australian family adventure series (s) (6081863). **Northern Ireland:** Over the Wall 12.25 The Pink Panther

12.45 NEW **Sunday Show.** Entertainment series presented by Donna McPhail and Katie Puckrick (s) (8019018)

1.30 Regional Westminster programmes (15501). **Northern Ireland:** Gourmet Ireland

2.00 FILM: Casablanca (1942, b/w) starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman. A classic drama set in Second World War Morocco where jaundiced night club owner Rick Blaine's life is turned upside down when his former lover arrives with her fugitive husband. Directed by Michael Curtiz. (Ceefax) (5812259)

3.40 Animation (8128037)

3.50 NEW **Cruit's 95: The History of Cruit's.** The first of a six-part series (s) (8705747)

4.20 Choir of the Year. The climax of the Sainsbury's Choir of the Year competition. (Ceefax) (s) (8020259)

5.10 Rugby Special. Highlights from yesterday's five nations' championship games in Dublin and Edinburgh (s) (7123143)

6.10 Natural World: The Call of the Kakadu. A documentary look at Kakadu National Park in Northern Australia. (Ceefax) (s) (844940)

7.00 The Money Programme. Steve Annett talks to Alan Sugar about his plans to put his Amstrad company back in the van of consumer electronics. (Ceefax) (497476)

7.40 Music for Queen Mary. The Henry Purcell tercentenary celebrations continue with a concert of music composed for Queen Mary, live from Westminster Abbey (s) (68387269)

9.40 The Trial of O.J. Simpson. A review of the week's events. (Ceefax) (s) (718389)

10.30 CHOICE **Messengers from Moscow: South.** (Ceefax) (s) (20389)

11.30 FILM: American Gigolo (1980) starring Richard .Gere and Lauren Hutton. A male prostitute is the prime suspect in a murder case. His alibi can only be provided by his lover, the wife of a prominent politician. Will she clear his name and risk the scandal that her involvement with him will produce? Directed by Paul Schrader. (Ceefax) (16414). Ends at 1.30am

LWT

6.00am GMTV begins with **The Sunday Review 6.30 News** and sport **7.00 The Sunday Programme** (71501)

8.00 Disney Club (Teletext) (s) (74780414)

10.15 Link. Topical magazine made for and by disabled people. (Teletext) (s) (1098969)

10.30 NEW **A Meditation.** A programme exploring the difficulties people face in today's society. (Teletext) (s) (36747)

11.30 Sunday Brunch. Topical religious programme presented by Julian Pettifer and Janey Lee Grace (s) (45872)

12.30pm Crossstalk with Donald MacIntyre (10056)

1.00 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (72564872)

1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby and a studio audience quiz another public figure (s) (4690037)

2.00 NEW **The Motor Show** presented by Nicky Fox, Eamonn O'Neal and Will Hoy. Includes items on the location of car thieves by satellite, and a budget supercar from Japan (6360)

2.30 The Sunday Match. Jim Rosenthal introduces live coverage of the match between Wolves and Portsmouth from Molineux (86124501)

5.15 The London Programme: The Channel Tunnel (379143)

5.45 Animal Country. Desmond Morris and Sarah Kennedy discover what herpetology is all about, and meet a family with more than one black sheep (s) (378414)

6.00 High Interest: A Gamble On the Ocean Wave. A look at the cruising industry. (Teletext) (s) (8268785)

6.35 Machinations. In the second of the four-part series Andy Plant demonstrates the forces that make machines function through his travelling clock (s) (291037)

6.00 NEW **Party of Five.** American drama series about five brothers and sisters struggling to stay together following the death of their parents in a car accident (s) (93389)

7.00 CHOICE **Explorers of the Titanic.** (Teletext) (9785)

8.00 Pot Night: The Great Pot Debate Sheena MacDonald chairs a discussion on Britain's current law on cannabis (5105)

9.00 TV Operas: The Triumph of Beauty and Deceit. An allegorical tale in which Beauty (Richard Edgar-Wilson) yearns for immortality and is encouraged in his concept by Deceit (Adrian Clark). Based on Handel's oratorio *The Triumph of Truth and Time*, the music was composed by Gerald Barry with a libretto by Meredith Oakes (s) (5969)

10.00 FILM: Orlando (1992) starring Tilda Swinton. From the *Reef Women* season, a dramatisation of the novel by Virginia Woolf about a person who lives through four centuries, from the first Elizabethan age to the present day, first as a man and then as a woman. Directed by Sally Potter. (Teletext) (s) (491766)

11.40 Karachi Kops. The first of a five-part documentary series examining the problems of policing Karachi (r). (Teletext) (660018)

12.15am FILM: Mahal (1949, b/w) starring Ashok Kumar. The Hindi film series continues with this supernatural love story directed by Kamal Amrohi. In Urdu and Hindi with English subtitles (71732693). Ends at **3.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Transworld Sport (r) (1818834)

7.15-11.15 Children's programmes beginning with **Chigley** (r) (1967921) **7.30 Madeline** (r) (5141662)

7.55 Hullabalioo with Floella Benjamin (r) (s) (5475495) **8.15 Inspector Gadget** (4628360) **8.40 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures.** Animated history series (s) (2754921)

9.05 The Pink Panther (3330747) **9.30 Back To the Future** (s) (7673940) **9.55 Droopy — Master Detective** (5653327)

10.15 Wise Up. Consumer affairs magazine for young people (s) (6295582) **10.35 Dennis** (4026872) **10.45 Saved by the Bell: The New Class.** (Teletext) (145607)

11.15 Rawhide: Incident of the Silent Web (b/w). Classic western adventures starring Eric Fleming and Clint Eastwood. The cattlemen find a little girl struck dumb after witnessing the murder of her father (r) (855312)

12.15 Little House on the Prairie. Vintage family drama series. (Teletext) (330389)

1.15 Board Stupid. The third of a series of eight programmes on snowboarding (s) (378388)

1.45 Football Italia. Live coverage of a *Serie A* game (524858563)

4.00 Inside the Vatican. The last in the series on the history of the Vatican, presented by Sir Peter Ustinov. (Teletext) (s) (8891). Followed by **News** summary and weather

6.00 High Interest: A Gamble On the Ocean Wave. A look at the cruising industry. (Teletext) (s) (8268785)

6.15 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (564478)

6.35 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (419747)

6.45 Barrymore. The comedian meets more extraordinary members of the general public. (Teletext) (s) (338056)

7.45 Catherine Cookson's The Gambling Man. The second of three episodes following the fortunes of a rent collector who decides to improve his lot in life by entering the world of big-time gambling. Rory is wracked with guilt over the imprisonment of John George. (Teletext) (s) (327940)

8.45 ITN News (Teletext) and weather (991853)

9.00 CHOICE **The Vacillations of Poppy Carew** (7160)

11.00 The South Bank Show: Edward Albee. Melvyn Bragg presents a profile of the dramatist famous for past triumphs including *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and *A Delicate Balance*, who recently took Broadway by storm with *Three Tall Women*. (Teletext) (76259)

12.00 The Hidden Room (26273)

12.30am The Short Show (4994761

MONDAY MARCH 6

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (12957) 8.00 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (24167) 8.30 Blockbusters (23438) 9.00 Oprah Winfrey (49119) 10.00 Concentration (78525) 10.30 Card Sharks (30932) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (95793) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (27254) 12.30pm Anything But Love (36490) 1.00 St Elsewhere (94273) 2.00 Defiance of the Gods (79264) 3.00 Oprah Winfrey (6429815) 3.59 DJ Kat (5101760) 4.15 The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (5318506) 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (7051) 6.00 Gamesworld (2235) 6.30 Family Ties (6815) 7.00 Rescue (5760) 7.30 M*A*S*H (2099) 8.00 Due South (78466) 9.00 Civil Wars (69254) 10.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (91341) 11.00 Late Show (636760) 11.50 Lifejohn (392410) 12.40am Chances (3529804) 1.30 The New WKRP in Cincinnati (91113) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix Long Play (8213200)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
5.00am Sunrise (1740419) 9.30 OJ Simpson (6209062) 10.10 CDS 00 Minutes (1376601) 1.30pm CBS News (60761) 2.30 Parliament Live (11577) 5.05 Richard Littlejohn (19639490) 9.30 OJ Simpson Trial Live (476780) 12.30am CBS News (69294861) 1.10 60 Minutes (28660269) 2.30 Parliament Replay (94911) 4.30 CBS News (80804) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (85378)

SKY MOVIES

5.00am Showcase (1690419) 10.00 True Stories (1986): Tales about a small Texas town (47508) 12.00 The Ladies' Man (1961): Jerry Lewis comedy (786167) 1.55pm How to Steal a Million (1966): Romantic comedy with Peter O'Toole and Audrey Hepburn (95983541) 4.00 Blue Fire Lady (1978): Australian family drama (84165186) 5.55 The News Boys (1992): Musical drama about the rebellion against unscrupulous press boss Pulitzer in 1899 (45752915) 8.00 And Then There Was One (1994): True story of a young couple and their baby daughter, all of whom are told they have the Aids virus. Starring Amy Madigan and Dennis Boutsikaris (68542) 10.00 Silver (1993): A new tenant in a New York apartment building believes she is being spied upon. Stars Sharon Stone (4266812) 11.50 Liebesmarm (1991): A young man returns to a small town to visit his young mother (725419) 1.45am A Private Matter (1992): Courtroom drama with Sissy Spacek (961991) 3.15 Certain Comets (1979): Cult comedy-drama starring Godfrey Cambridge (715823) 4.50 True Stories: As 10am (6977571)

BBC1

6.00am Rainbow (6338284) 6.25 Play School (6332994) 6.45 Breakfast News (6329642) 9.00 Kilroy (s) (5517525) 9.45 Regional News and Weather (6807964) 10.00 Cartoon Time (6338284) 10.30 Play School (6332994) 10.50 Regional News and Weather (6807964) 11.00 Pebble Mill (s) (6338284) 11.45 Regional News and Weather (6807964) 12.00 Noel's House Party (s) (6338284) 12.45pm Regional News and Weather (6807964) 1.00 Neighbours (s) (6338284) 1.30 Regional News and Weather (6807964) 1.45 Pebble Mill (s) (6338284) 2.30 Cartoon Time (6338284) 3.00 Play School (6332994) 3.20 Rainbow (6338284) 3.40 Tots TV (s) (6338284) 3.50 Taz-Mania (s) (6338284) 4.15 Harry's Mad (s) (6338284) 4.45 Art Attack (s) (6338284) 5.10 After 5 (s) (6338284) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (s) (6338284) 6.00 Home and Away (s) (6338284) 6.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (6338284) 7.00 Coronation Street (s) (6338284) 7.30 Chain Letters (s) (6338284) 8.00 The Big Breakfast (s) (6338284) 9.00 You Bet Your Life (s) (6338284) 9.30 Schools: Geography Start Here! 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TRAVEL

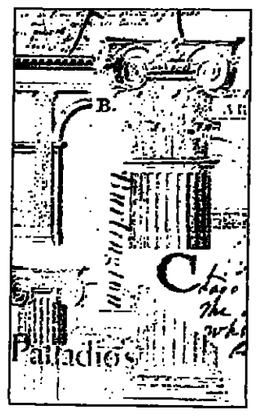


Mexico: Where mãnana never comes

Page 16

PLUS: B&B breaks go upmarket, page 17

SHOPPING



Inspired by Palladio: At the Royal Academy

Page 15

PLUS: Attend a private viewing at the RA, page 3

GARDENING



Exotic and abundant balcony schemes

Page 8

PLUS: Your gardening problems solved, page 9

COLLECTING



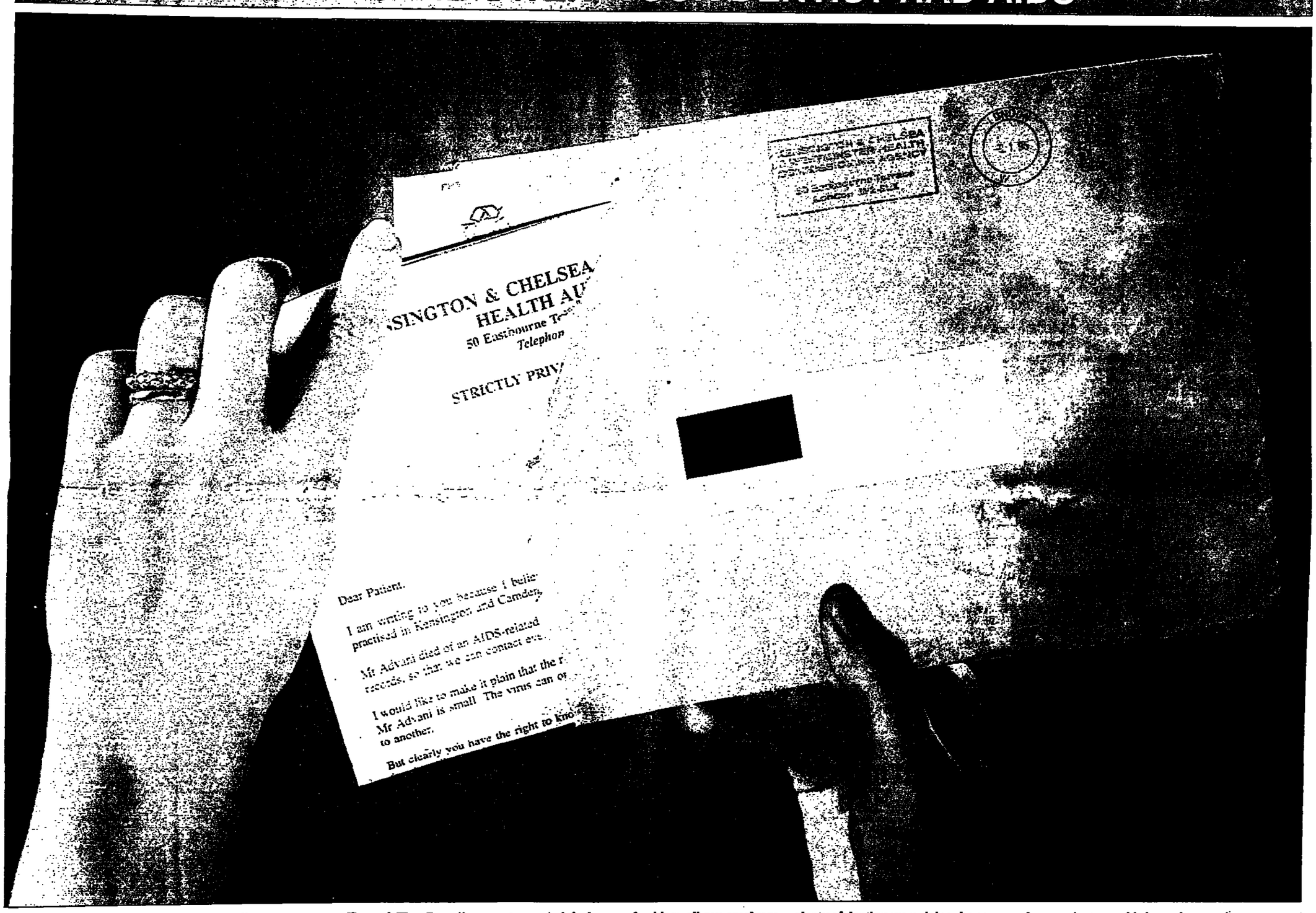
Classic film posters come under the hammer

Page 10

PLUS: The latest from the salerooms, page 10

WEEKEND

DEAR JANE OWEN, YOUR DENTIST HAD AIDS



Just after one o'clock my car radio broadcast the news: "Former dentist Dr Vikram Advani has died of an Aids-related disease. Here is the helpline number. His former patients will be offered counselling and an HIV test. There is very little risk . . ."

My dentist. My husband's dentist.

I have two children. One has just turned five, the other will be four in April. They were conceived after I had been treated by Advani. After my husband had been treated by Advani. And Advani had carried out root canal surgery on me — a bloody business.

My car had moved from the Old Street roundabout near the City of London to just outside the offices of *The Guardian* newspaper in Farringdon Road without my having any memory of having driven the half mile or so. My mind was locked in the dingy little surgery on the Camden Road, north London, where Advani first treated me. Lying back in that chair, Advani gossiping about polo matches, and name-dropping for all he was worth, I noticed that he was preparing to start my root canal treatment bare-handed.

I asked him why his hands were bare. Although I cannot remember his reply he made me feel that I should have not have asked, and it was embarrassment, *embarrassment*, that made me resist the temptation to get up and leave the surgery.

A deft change of subject: all my amalgam fillings should be replaced with porcelain ones because "the mercury in the amalgam" was slowly poisoning me. And I searched my memory to conjure up a picture of those hands: were they cut or injured in any way? Could his blood have infected mine?

It was a recommendation from a friend, an aching face and a catalogue of hopelessness by a former dentist that took me to Advani's chair in the late 1980s. And when, in the early 1990s, he told me he would no longer treat me on the National Health I reluctantly agreed to pay for private treatment for the first time in my life. Advani's opting out of the National Health Service rang no alarm bells because plenty of dentists were doing the same at the time: they objected to the new National Health contracts.

This was not Advani's reason: in 1991 his doctor advised him to stop dental work. So he simply closed down his National Health practice and continued private work from his smart house in Kensington, west London. By that time he had already been diagnosed as HIV positive and was "beginning to be unwell", as Kensington & Chelsea & Westminster Health Authority put it. Presumably the onset of Aids.

Never, at any stage, did it occur to me to check my dentist's credentials, let alone his state of health. None of his other 1,400 patients could have known he was HIV positive, and his doctor, understandably, took Advani's word that he had stopped practising.

Anyway, under current practices, none of us has a right to know the state of health of our doctor, nurse or dentist. It is deemed vital that the identity of HIV sufferers be kept confidential. So important, in fact, that even the HIV sufferer must be kept from the news that he or she is infected — unless they have elected to be tested. If you or I were to be found to be HIV positive during a routine blood test (I have, almost certainly, twice been tested for HIV without my consent,

Continued on page 3, col 1



CHOICE

Planning an evening out, or a day with your family? *The Times* critics select the best entertainment

JAZZ

Clive Davis

SCOTT HAMILTON: No American visitor seems more popular on these shores at the moment than this lyrical exponent of mainstream saxophone whose prime models are the great swing men, from Lester Young to Ben Webster and Zoot Sims. Hamilton is no stranger to British rhythm sections — he worked with the choice team of pianist Brian Lemon, bassist Dave Green and drummer Allan Ganley on the 1993 album, *East of the Sun*. Fresh from his annual engagement with Rosemary Clooney at the Rockefeller Center's cabaret in the sky, the Rainbow and Stars, he has maintained his prolific recording schedule; his latest session, *Organic Duke*, was recorded with Mike LeDonne at the Hammond organ.
Pizza Express, Dean St, London W1 (0171-439 8722), Mon 6, Wed 8 to Fri 10. (Also Sun 12, Mon 13, Wed 15 and Thur 16.) **Moir Hall**, Mitchell's Theatre, Granville St, Glasgow (0141-227 5511), Tue 7.

MASK ORCHESTRA: Last month's South Bank concert by Colin Towns's big band, the Mask Orchestra, resulted in rave reviews. The quality of the musicians played a part — Towns was able to call on the services of the hot young trumpeter Gerard Presencer and the saxophonists Nigel Hitchcock and Peter King — but his individual melodies and arrangements are his principal asset. His short tour caps a busy period for Towns — it is his orchestral score that you can hear supporting the heaving bosoms (metaphorically speaking) in the BBC's adaptation of Edith Wharton's novel, *The Buccaneers*.
Adrian Boult Hall, Birmingham (0121-236 3889), today; **Royal Northern College of Music**, Oxford Rd, Manchester (0161-273 4504) tomorrow; **The Guildhall**, Derby (01332 255800), Wed 8; **Colchester Arts Centre** (01206 577301), Thur 9.



After rave reviews, Colin Towns leads his big band, the Mask Orchestra, on a short tour

ROCK

David Sinclair

P. J. HARVEY/TRICKY: Having dismissed her previous two-man rhythm section, Polly Harvey embarks on her first tour for nearly two years with an expanded line-up which includes multi-instrumentalist John Parish and guitarist Joe Gore (best known for his work with Tom Waits). Always a riveting performer, she will be showcasing material from her splendidly spooky new album, *To Bring You My Love*. Support is provided by Tricky, the Bristolian "trip hop" star whose debut album, *Maxinquaye*, has followed Portishead's *Dummy* to become one of the surprise sensations of the year.
Barrowlands, Glasgow (0131-557 6969), Mar 4; **Town and Country**, Leeds (0113 442999), Mar 6; **Corn Exchange**, Cambridge (01223 357851), Mar 7; **Manchester Academy** (0161-832 1111), Mar 9; **Que Club**, Birmingham (0121-643 6103), Mar 10; **Shepherds Bush Empire**, London (0181-740 7474), Mar 11.

FOREIGNER/THE DOOBIE BROTHERS: An unlikely blast from the past from a pair of bands which most observers understandably assumed had gone down with all hands on deck many years ago. Singer Lou Gramm and guitarist Mick Jones recouvened Foreigner in 1992, and they seem to have been touring ever since. The reunion has "nothing to do with nostalgia" according to Gramm who insists, somewhat implausibly, that "We're picking up right where we left off". Although Foreigner is the bigger band, it is support act The Doobie Brothers which has enjoyed the more recent hit — a remixed version of *Long Train Running*, which breached the UK Top Ten last summer — and which has returned to the fray with its original line-up intact.
Bournemouth International Centre (01202 297297), Mar 8; **National Indoor Arena**, Birmingham (0121-200 2202), Mar 9; **SECC**, Glasgow (0141-248 9999), Mar 10; **Sheffield Arena** (0114 2565656), Mar 14; **Cardiff International Arena** (01222 234500), Mar 15; **Wembley Arena** (0181-900 1234), Mar 16.



P. J. Harvey in concert

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

WESTMINSTER CENTENARY: What better way to celebrate the centenary of Westminster Cathedral than by the performance of a work that unites the genius of two of the greatest English Catholics? The work is *The Dream of Gerontius*, Cardinal Newman's vivid poem charting a soul's journey to heaven, set to music of unsurpassable dignity and splendour by Elgar. In this performance, conducted by that estimable Elgarian, Andrew Davis, the title-role is sung by Dennis O'Neill, with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in attendance.
Westminster Cathedral (advance booking from South Bank box office, 0171-928 8800), Fri 10, 7.30pm.

NEW CONSORTS: Perhaps the most imaginative homage to Purcell in his tercentenary year is a project based round the viol consort Fretwork. Twelve contemporary composers — Russian, Australian, Chinese and Scandinavian as well as British — have been commissioned to write new works for viols inspired by the fantasias that Purcell wrote for viol consort in 1680. The new works will be played in two concerts (the second is in May) alongside the original Purcell pieces. A delightful idea; let us hope that the creativity of today's composers measures up to Purcell's masterpieces.
Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800), Tues 7, 7pm.

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

THE CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN: Lesley Garrett, that lissome little whirlwind of an earth-spirit, returns in triumph as Janáček's fox-woman, charting her life-cycle — from pre-teen *ingénue* to flapper to mother of countless cubs darning socks in cardie and slippers — with irrepressible energy. She also sings wonderfully, the words emerging clearly through her bright, athletic soprano. Nicholas Folwell's Forester is her worthy partner, David Pountney's classic production remains as touching as it is funny and Stephen Barlow catches precisely the right balance between passion and care in his conducting. On such a night as this any talk of "a reduced role" for English National Opera is simply unthinkable.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-836 3161), today at 3pm (with the hugely promising Mary Plazas as the Vixen) and 7.30pm; Wed 8 and Fri 10 at 7.30pm.

OBERTO: Last chance to catch Opera North's zingy staging of Verdi's first opera, which is much more than just an act of pious archaeology — the work has a craggy energy all its own as well as countless pre-echoes of masterpieces still to come. John Tomlinson both directs and sings the grizzled paterfamilias of the title role, and there is appropriately sturdy support from Rita Cullis and Linda Finnie. David Porcelijn is the no-nonsense conductor, lamming into the score for all it (and he) is worth.
Palace Theatre, Oxford St, Manchester (0161-242 2503), today, 7.15pm; **Theatre Royal**, Theatre St, Norwich (01603 630000), Tues 7 and Sat 11, 7.30pm.

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

INDIAN INK: The main character, a young English poet in the 1930s Raj, needs to be played with more abrasiveness and astringency than Felicity Kendal manages to give her. But Tom Stoppard's latest is still a warm, intelligent, funny piece, which jumps across the decades to mount a lively debate on colonialism, the nationality gap, the Anglicisation of the Indians and the Indianisation of some of the English.
The Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, London WC2 (0171-416 6003). Evenings, Mon to Sat at 7.30pm; matinées, Wed and Sat at 3pm.

HAMLET: Ralph Fiennes is a fine, clean prince who goes more thoroughly to pieces than any recent prince. Imagine the villain of *Schindler's List* raging about in a filthy vest, add loads of subincestuous passion, and you have a Hamlet with genuine impact.
Hackney Empire, London E8 (0171-312 1995), Mon to Sat, 7.30pm; Sat, 2.30pm, until Mar 25.

● *More theatre, page 6.*

DANCE

John Percival

THE BRONTES: The lives as well as the work of literature's second most famous three sisters — Charlotte, Emily and Anne — provide the raw material for Northern Ballet Theatre's new work. Director Christopher Gable and choreographer Gillian Lynne tell the story from the viewpoint of the girls' father, Patrick Brontë, vicar of Haworth, who saw his wife, son and five daughters all die before him. The music has been written by Dominic Muldowney and the designs are by Lez Brotherston. This week's premiere at Leeds (only a few miles from where the family lived and wrote their masterworks) starts a national tour taking in Darlington, Halifax, Nottingham, Plymouth, Cardiff, Sheffield, Woking and Newcastle.
Grand Theatre, Leeds (0113 245 9351), Mon 6 to Sat 11 at 7.30pm, also Thur 9 and Sat 11 at 2pm.

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET: Two more premieres this week. Marion Tait becomes the first British dancer to play Antony Tudor's celebrated dance drama, *Pillar of Fire*, with a British company. Set to Schoenberg's *Transfigured Night* it was created in 1942 and together with Balanchine's Tchaikovsky display piece, *Theme and Variations* (premiered in 1947), forms part of Birmingham's Forties festival. Bartók's Third Piano Concerto, also from that decade, is the score for the programme's other premiere, *Libramenta*, by one of the company's dancers, Oliver Hindle.
Birmingham Hippodrome, Hurst Street, Birmingham (0121-622 7486), Fri 10 at 7.30pm, Sat 11 at 2.30pm and 7.30pm.

FILMS

Geoff Brown

QUIZ SHOW (15): Robert Redford, wearing his director's cap, resurrects a fascinating episode in 1950s America, when the television quiz show *Twenty One* was rocked by scandal. A disgruntled proletariat Jew (John Turturro) takes revenge on the WASP (Ralph Fiennes) who replaces him as champion. Redford is fighting a lost battle when he bemoans the ascent of television culture, but his elegy for civilised values is sustained by an amusing script and brilliant performances.
Barbican (0171-638 8891); **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096); **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353), **Kensington** (01426 914666), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098); **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366); **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332); **Warner** (0171-437 4343).

PRET-A-PORTER (15): Lightning struck twice when Robert Altman followed *The Player* with *Short Cuts*. Unfortunately the third bolt never materialises in this next whirlwind epic, in which the veteran maverick casts a withering gaze at the Paris fashion world. He secures background authenticity by mixing star actors with the confusion and silliness of Paris's fashion show week, though the stars remain caricatures, while insights and good jokes are in short supply. Diversions include Kim Basinger's television commentator, Marcello Mastroianni and Sophia Loren echoing their past, and the eye-boggling costumes.
Electric (0171-792 2020); **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Tottenham Crt Rd** (0171-636 6148); **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **West End** (01426 915574); **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

● *More films, page 6.*



Fiennes, Turturro: *Quiz Show*

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

DE KOONING: The last survivor of the heroic generation of Abstract Expressionists comes to London in a rumbustious Tate retrospective. Now 91, Willem de Kooning has occupied a leading place in American painting for half a century. But the onset of Alzheimer's has brought his work to an end, and so the exhibition has the feeling of a memorial survey. After hesitant beginnings in the late 1930s, Dutch-born de Kooning developed the no-holds-barred approach which would make him notorious. He never became wholly abstract, preferring to concentrate on the female figure and the landscape. But the freedom and energy of his mark-making have a barbaric life of their own. Although his finest paintings were produced around 1950, de Kooning had staying-power and arrived at another convulsive peak in the late 1970s.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (0171-887 8000), until May 7.

YVES KLEIN: Infamous during his lifetime as a showman who smeared naked women with blue paint, Klein is still suspected of charlatanism. But the Hayward Gallery's lucidly installed survey reveals a surprisingly varied and thoughtful artist. Although he died of a heart attack at 34, Klein achieved a great deal in his short career. His monochrome paintings can be very powerful, and they provide the show with its most sublime moments. But he also staged some memorable, witty performances, explored the possibilities of sponges and flames, and opened up a range of unexpected avenues for younger artists to explore. That is why his own work still looks fresh and provocative.
Hayward Gallery, London SE1 (0171-928 8800), until Apr 23.

MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

THE GROTESQUE: Man's imaginative capacity to make the weird weirder and turn everyday objects into bizarre fantasy goes back in art at least as far as Pompeii. While there is a lot of grotesquery in medieval art this show of grotesque prints from the British Museum's collections starts with the renaissance rediscovery of ancient Roman decorations and follows this tradition through from the early 16th century to the mid 18th. Fantastic creatures pose obligingly with normal human beings, or arrange themselves into decorative patterns; animals and humans are assembled, Frankenstein-fashion, from unlikely materials.
Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Manchester (0161-2734865), Mon-Sat 10am-5pm (Thur to 9pm), until April 8.

KOREA THROUGH JAPANESE AND CHINESE EYES: Korea has all too frequently been the battleground for neighbouring nations. In 1894-1895 China and Japan fought over it, the Japanese winning. Both sides reflected on the conflict in traditional woodblock prints, and the British Library unexpectedly has more than 200 of them. The present selection covers both sides in the conflict. The Japanese are full of energy, lauding the most modern technology used and offering heroic images of popular soldiers. The Chinese produce rather static set-pieces of battle, in every way much more primitive. On this evidence the outcome of the war can never have been much in doubt.
British Library Exhibition Galleries, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (0171-412 7111), Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm, until July 16.

CHILDREN

LONDON

What on Earth: Get stuck in the mud and see how many objects you can uncover in the reconstructed "dig".
Museum of London, London Wall EC2 (0171-600 0807). Museum open Tues-Sat, 10am-5.50pm; Sun noon-5.50pm. Admission: adults £3.50, children £1.75. Workshop tomorrow and every Sunday until April 2, 1.45pm and 3pm, free.

Indian Dance: See a demonstration of classical Indian dance in the Kathak style and then try the hand gestures and footwork yourself.
Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street W8 (0171-603 4535). Workshop today, tomorrow, 2.30pm-4pm, £4. Advisable to book.

AVON

The Wizard of Oz: Brian Blessed and Peter Duncan star as the Cowardly Lion and the Scarecrow in this musical based on the film.
The Theatre Royal, Sawclose, Bath (01225 448844). Mon-Wed, 7.30pm; Thur-next Sat, 8pm; matinée Wed and next Sat, 2.30pm. Tickets from £7.

BEDFORDSHIRE

Mystery Adventure Walk: Explore the nature reserve, headquarters of the RSPB.
RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy (01767 680541). Age 9 and under. Tomorrow, 2pm. Tickets: adults £1, children 50p. Book in advance.

CAMBRIDGE

Three Billy Goats Gruff: Save the goats from the jaws of the troll in this traditional story.
Cambridge Drama Centre, Covent Garden, Mill Road, Cambridge, today, 11am; and at Comberton Village College, today, 3.30pm (01223 322748). Ages four to ten. Tickets £3.25.

KENT

Great Expectations: Adaptation of Dickens's novel for the small stage.
Appledore Parish Hall, Appledore, near Tenterden (01233 758320), Mon, 7.30pm; Borden Parish Hall, School Lane, Borden, near Sittingbourne (01795 473279), Tues, 7.45pm; Barham Village Hall, Barham, near Canterbury (01227 831630), Wed, 7.30pm; Hartlip Village Hall, The Street, Harlip, near Sittingbourne (01795 842091), Thur, 7.45pm. Tickets: adults £4, children £3.50. Tour continues until April 1 through Kent and Sussex. Tel: 0843 588280 for more information.

SCOTLAND

Palace of Holyroodhouse: Visit the official residence of the Queen in Scotland.
Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh (0131-556 1096). Open Mon-Sat, 9.30am-3.45pm; Sun, 10am-3.45pm. Admission: adults £3.50, children £1.80.

WALES

Peter Pan: A new production of J. M. Barrie's story with music, dancing and flying. Toyah Wilcox plays Peter, the little boy who refuses to grow up, and Frank Finlay plays the evil Captain Hook.
New Theatre, Park Place, Cardiff (01222 394844). Mon-next Sat, 7.30pm; matinée: Thur and next Sat, 3pm. Tickets from £6.

YORKSHIRE

Double Agents: Find out all the things you did not know about frogs, toads and newts.
Lakeside Visitor Centre, Middleton Park, Leeds (01532 715811). Tomorrow, 2pm-4pm. Free.



Frogs are spawning in Leeds

Holiday on Ice: The 50th anniversary show.
Sheffield Arena, Broughton Lane, Sheffield (0114 256 5656). Wed-next Sat, 7.30pm; Thurs and next Sat, 2pm; next Sun 2pm and 5.30pm. Adults from £9, children from £6.

HEATHER ALSTON

Ruth Gledhill combines a service with shopping at the MetroCentre in Gateshead

RELIGION



SOME people *fight and others* run away, but when the going gets tough, I go shopping. There can surely be nowhere better to combine a church service with self-service than Gateshead's MetroCentre, Europe's largest shopping centre. What made this spot of retail therapy worth the five-hour drive there and back was the spiritual imprimatur stamped on this shopaholic's paradise by virtue of its ownership by the Church of England.

At Gateshead the church has responded to Sunday trading by laying on Sunday services for the shoppers visiting the ten-screen cinema, 28-lane bowling centre, Marks & Spencer, House of Fraser, the "antique village" and dozens of clothes shops.

Having invested heavily in the 1980s property boom and subsequently lost millions, the church has decided to sell the centre, its biggest and most profitable commercial asset. The Church Commissioners, who manage the church's £2.5 billion assets, could make £500 million from the sale.

Half an hour before the service began, exhausted shoppers, mainly children and pensioners, had seated themselves in the chairs placed ready, more as if relieved to find a seat than grateful for such a spiritual oasis. After a few warm-up verses the band, with guitars and electric organ, struck up. "We want to see Jesus lifted high," they sang, while simultaneously behind them rose a glass lift taking its captive occupants to the first floor. "Strongholds come tumbling down," they continued, as the lift descended in a strange coincidence that made me wonder whether the whole affair wasn't God's little joke on commerce and the Church of England.



RICHARD RAYNER

Exhausted shoppers join in hymns and listen to the band

The Rev Lyn Jamieson, MetroCentre chaplain, is one of 1,500 Anglican chaplains, of which 49 are in industry. In between ministering to the centre's staff and customers, she invites a different priest or minister to take the monthly service, and ours was led by the Rev Bob Hopper, vicar of All Saints Lobley Hill nearby. "Lord, we thank you for everyone who is here," he said. "We thank you specially for those who are just passing by and stopped to listen. Lord, we pray that you will make your presence known and felt here through the power of your spirit."

Shoppers weighed down with goods in plastic bags began to queue around the balconies and chairs, and within a few minutes there was standing room only. Few passed by without stopping to listen or join in some of the hymns projected onto a large screen. Many, clearly non-churchgoers, were fascinated, but seemed uncertain whether the service was an entertainment to be enjoyed or a sales pitch for some commodity.

"Jesus I need you deep down in my heart," we sang next, while I wondered about the things I wanted but arguably did not need. We heard a personal testimony from Doris, an elderly member of the congregation, on how much she loved the new styles of evangelical music which are usurping more traditional hymns in churches throughout Britain. There was a reading from St Paul's letter to the Corinthians, where he calls on Christians to clothe themselves in kindness, humility and gentleness, but says nothing about buying a new dress. Our prayers were led by a young woman, Susan. "Lord, there may be people walking round with nothing in their lives," she said. "We pray that you will reach out and touch them." After another hour walking through the centre, when I discovered a perverse pleasure in looking at all the things I did not want, I resolved, just for one day, no more to lay up treasures upon the earth.

Sunday Shoppers' Service, 3pm at the MetroCentre, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE11 9XX (0191 493 2046).

CHAPLAIN: The Rev Lyn Jamieson.

ARCHITECTURE: Glittering cathedral to mammon, the cross scarcely evident save in the faces of tired shoppers. ★★

SERMON: Worship leader argued for modernity. "We have a big heart for people everywhere, we also have a heart for the Church, particularly those bits of the Church that are stuck somewhere in the 16th century." ★

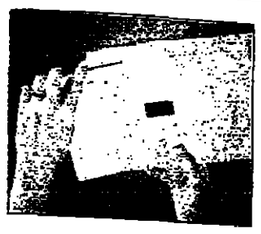
MUSIC: Seemingly endless series of sugary sing-along evangelical songs, a shopping centre being the best-possible setting for this ecclesiastical equivalent of "muzak". ★★★

LITURGY: Like a spiritual DJ, worship leader ad-libbed between the songs, an effective style in this context. ★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: Tried but could not find a single thing to buy, so abandoned shopping and resorted instead to the chaplain's proffered cup of tea, cakes and solicitous concern. ★★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: Brave attempt to serve both God and mammon. ★★★

★ *stars are awarded to a maximum of five.*



"Advani had carried out root canal surgery on me. I was haunted by the memory of those bare hands"

Continued from page 1

along with thousands of other women who have had babies in the last five years) we cannot be told.

Angry hoots from a black cab, whose bumper I had narrowly missed, brought me back to the present and I tried to concentrate on driving. Heaven knows the original purpose of the journey — now all I wanted was to get back to my nest. The children were home from school (broken boiler) demanding to know what I was doing there — was it the weekend? The children's nanny looked puzzled, but I could think of nothing to say except "hello", and went to find the helpline number.

A BBC switchboard operator found it. A man answered and asked a few questions. In an unreasoned panic I refused to give my name.

"Have you got your letter with your patient number?"

"No, but I was treated by him."

I was put on hold and put through to someone else who asked me the same questions, and then I remembered that I had left too early to have seen that morning's post. A letter, postmarked Kensington & Chelsea & Westminster Health Authority lay on the stairs, a rubber-stamped "confidential" barely legible on the brown envelope so similar to the dozens that tip through my letter box each week.

My "unique patient number" was an open-sesame: I was put through to a counsellor from the Terrence Higgins Trust. He said that there was little chance of infection, and he was informative and reassuring.

"Was this a revenge thing?" I asked.

For the first and only time he was put off his beat and, finally demurred: "No, of course not." He told me there was no proven case in this country of a health worker infecting a patient with HIV.

"What are you most worried about?" he asked.

"My children."

"Have they had any serious illness since they were born?"

"No."

"Then they are fine."

"All the same, I want an HIV test."

"The clinic at the Royal Free hospital is probably the most convenient for you — and unlike some of the clinics they give same-day results." And he explained that we would have to have a counselling session, without which we would not be able to have HIV tests.

"Good — today then."

"No — they won't be able to test you until Thursday."

That was two days away. But it seemed there was little choice. "Can I book an appointment for my husband, too? Can we have a joint appointment?"

"No."

"Why not?" Muffled conversation in the background. The reason that counselling is normally done one to one is so that the individual can, without inhibitions, tell the counsellor about their sexual activity in and outside a marriage or relationship.

At last he agreed and arranged a time for the joint counselling session. Then I rang my husband. Having to break the news to him drove home the fear that all our family might be infected. And then there was the media. My lot — I am a journalist on *The Times*. Every time I turned on the radio, every news broadcast included this ghastly item. The papers carried reports about Advani, too. Some included the news that David Acer, a Florida health worker, may have infected up to five patients with HIV, a news story I had managed to forget. He was a dentist.

There was a day to go before the test. I went to work on autopilot and, that evening, had supper with a friend and drank far, far too much.

I had told one person at *The Times* what was going on. And I kept wondering whether to tell my colleagues if I was found to be HIV-positive.

At 9.20 on Thursday morning, my husband and I arrived at the Ian Charleson day centre at the back of the Royal Free hospital in London. It was an oasis — a comfortable, well-furnished waiting area and a staff of friendly people. Two other couples, one, with a baby, looking as terrified as we must have done. The other, a little older than us, expensively dressed and looking — happy. I admired their *sang-froid*. There were a number of single men and, on the walls, posters about safe sex, bereavement counselling and funeral services. I lurked behind a copy of *The Times*, not reading a word but wanting a shield from this alien world.

Our counsellor arrived and took us into a dusty room, in the main hospital, furnished with a few Formica tables and assorted chairs. She was young, beautiful and sweet-natured, even when I snarled responses to the questions that she had to ask:

"How do you think you might feel if you are found to be HIV-positive?"

That one rendered me speechless.

"What do you think you would do if you were found to be infected?"

My husband, seeing steam rise from my ears, said: "I would go down to hell and give Advani's spit another turn. Do you understand? This man might have wiped out the whole of my family."

"Do you think you might have been infected?"

"Well, of course, otherwise I would not be here."

"How do you think you will react if you are *not* HIV-positive?"

"Thrilled — over the moon. Obviously."

"Here are some other ways that it is possible to be infected by the HIV virus," she listed them: infected blood or infected sexual fluid taken via mouth, anus, vagina or any break in the skin; sharing of needles with anyone who is infected with the HIV virus.

"Do you feel that there is any chance you could have been infected in this way?"

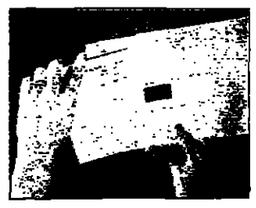
"No."

This is a sensible question. I can see that. If I were found to be HIV-positive the authorities would have to be absolutely sure of the disease's provenance. But it seemed, in the circumstances, an offensive question.

The counsellor was soothing and particularly anxious to assure confidentiality. The fact that I had been tested would appear nowhere, she said, not even on my dental records. Anyway, since I had had two babies I would have had blood tests and, unofficially, my blood would probably have been tested for HIV, she said. Well, yes, but even if my blood had been found to be infected I could not have been told. The fact would simply have been added to a central body of statistics about Aids.

This is a topsy-turvy system.

It is this very secrecy which threatens you and me and our children. The secrecy breeds fear and disease. And it works both ways in the patient-health worker partnership. According to a report in *The Lancet* in 1993, 60 health workers have been infected with HIV by patients. So why not ensure that health-care workers know if their patient has this devastating infection? Because, according to the Department of Health, a patient receiving medical care has the right to that care without being obliged to have an HIV test — and a health-care worker treating a patient has a right not to have the test unless he or she wishes to.



"Health-care workers have a right not to have the test unless they wish to. It is an ethical minefield"

And so we enter the ethical minefield of HIV.

In Australia, the first patient-to-patient infection was recorded when, in 1989, four women were given minor surgery on the same day as a man who later discovered that he was carrying the HIV virus.

The subsequent tribunal found that: "the only method of transmission is through the interchange of bodily fluids". and concluded that the most likely cause was the use of a multi-dose vial of local anaesthetic which became contaminated by a syringe used on the HIV-positive man. Shortly before the tribunal returned its decision, the New South Wales Health Department considered compulsory tests for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C every six months for any health professional involved in surgical work. Professional bodies representing medical workers turned down the scheme although their own policy states that HIV-infected health workers should, voluntarily, not engage in "invasive procedures".

In the States, the Center for Disease Control endorses voluntary testing for HIV for health-care workers and patients before any surgery. It is not a fail-safe system because HIV does not necessarily show in the first few months after infection but it may be a step in the right direction.

In this country the British Medical Association insists that the emphasis should be on proper infection control rather than on testing. The Terrence Higgins Trust, too, is against any form of compulsory testing and gives three reasons: the fact that health workers can simply stick to the Royal College of Surgeons' guidelines in order to prevent infection; the infringement of civil liberties of people who may not even want to know that they are infected: and the high cost of such a measure.

Regular testing of health workers involved in surgery — say every six months — and testing of all patients about to have surgery would certainly be a huge and expensive task. But caring for an Aids sufferer until his or her death is an expensive task, too. The Department of Health estimates that every time it prevents an HIV infection it saves about £75,000 over the next ten to 15 years.

Health workers found to be HIV-positive could, surely, be found jobs within the health service that do not involve surgery.

Our counsellor tried to get us to think through the consequences of taking an HIV test. Were we absolutely certain that we both wanted to take a test? Yes — above all we wanted to be shot of this wretched uncertainty. Finally, she showed us back into the main clinic where we were to have our blood taken.

It was a freezing, sunny day. We had six hours before we could know the test results. The counsellor had told us to keep busy, to try not to dwell on it ... My husband and I, who never normally see each other during the day, went for a short walk on Hampstead Heath. Then I went to get my car fixed, still so thick-headed from the previous night's drinking I could not think properly — a boon in the circumstances. Whichever way the test goes, I decided, I have to take better care of my health. So I drove straight to a local bicycle shop and, in an act of uncharacteristic abandon, bought a mountain bike with a view to cycling the seven miles to work more often than I do at the moment on my 1940s bone-shaker.

And I promised myself what I have been promising myself for ages: that I would try to find some way of seeing more of my children.

By four o'clock we were back at the day centre. We were called back to our dusty room. We sat down and the counsellor told us that both our tests were negative. Neither of us was HIV-positive. My husband kissed the counsellor. She made us read each of our forms so that we could be in no doubt — the name, address and date of birth followed by the result: negative.

Euphoria.

We celebrated at a local tea shop. The happy couple from the day centre were there too, now looking even happier. We hailed each other. The man rose to speak to us.

"All clear?" he asked.

"Yes, so were you Advani's patients, too?"

He looked puzzled.

"The Aids dentist who died."

"No — we are embarking on a relationship. We are both clear." They beamed at each other.

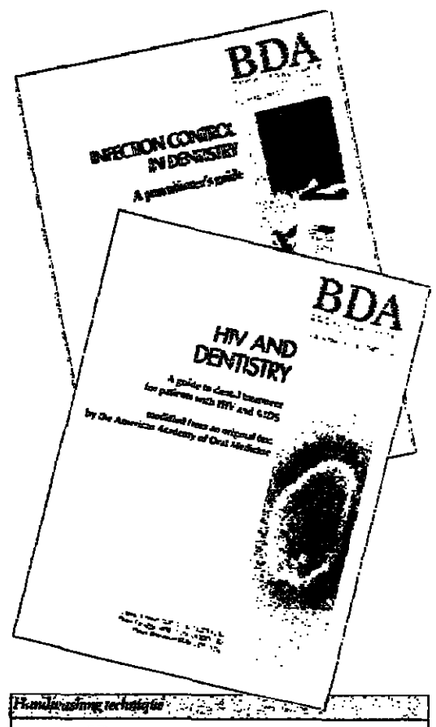
This was a revelation. People like you and me testing for HIV for, well, social reasons. This is, surely, the kind of responsible behaviour the Government would applaud, a victory for some of the Aids campaigns it has run. And yet, when it comes to health care, of all areas of our lives, it is difficult to behave as responsibly — to take informed decisions. I never again want to go through what I have just experienced and yet I have no way of knowing whether a medical or dental adviser, who might in the future treat one of my family, is HIV-positive, although they themselves may know. And that cannot be right.

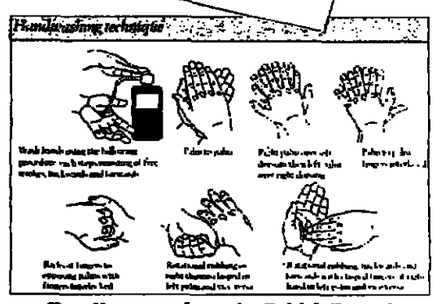
If some1 you worked with had [illegible], the virus that causes AIDS, WOULD IT AFFECT YOU? It wouldn't because there's no way the virus can transmitted through ordinary social contact. SO THERE'S NO REASON 2 TREAT A COLLEAGUE WHO HAS [illegible] OR AIDS ANY DIFFERENTLY FROM ANYONE ELSE WITH A LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS. They need your [illegible]

REMEMBER [illegible] (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) CAN ONLY BE PASSED ON IN 3 MAIN WAYS: 1. Through sexual intercourse without using a Co[illegible]. 2. By sharing a [illegible] with someone who has the virus. 3. From an infected mother to her unborn [illegible].

YOU CANNOT GET [illegible] THROUGH ORDINARY EVERYDAY CONTACT, means [illegible] is not, for example, passed on by [illegible], COUGHS or [illegible], SHARING [illegible] or [illegible] or [illegible] ROOMS - or through ANY EVERYDAY contact. So don't [illegible] up a working relation or friend with someone simply because YOU don't know the TRUTH about [illegible] & AIDS.

SHARE THE FACTS, NOT THE FICTION. NATIONAL AIDS HELPLINE 0800 567 123 Health Education Authority





Top: literature from the British Dental Association dealing with HIV and dentistry. Above: handwashing techniques for dentists



Health Education Authority posters (left and above) aim to promote awareness about HIV and Aids, and how it is transmited. "Don't worry about what you'll pick up at work" reads the headline (above)

Cover photograph by MARK HARRISON

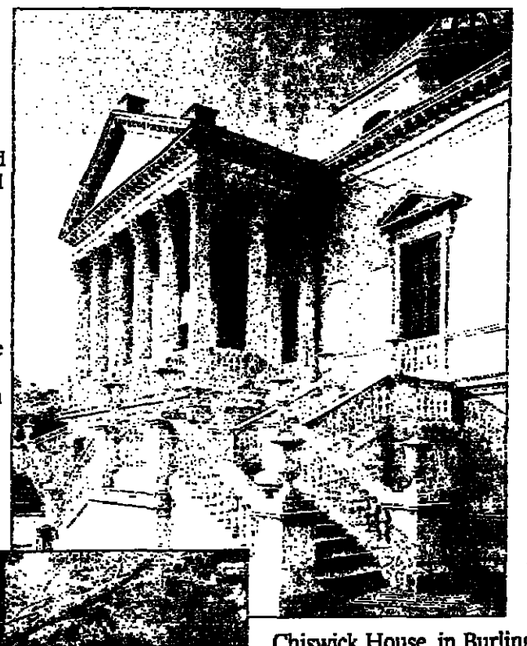
THE TIMES

Poussin and Palladian private view and Chiswick House offer

THE creation of the 18th century classical villa of Chiswick House, one of London's finest period buildings, is celebrated in a major exhibition at the Royal Academy – and *Times* readers are invited to a private viewing on Monday, March 13.

Guests at *The Palladian Revival: Lord Burlington and his house and garden at Chiswick* will also see the exhibition *Nicolas Poussin 1594-1665*, which celebrates the 400th birthday of the father of French painting.

And, to mark the Palladian exhibition, English Heritage is offering two admissions for the price of one to readers who visit Chiswick House.





Invitations to the Royal Academy viewing, which cost £10 per person, include a glass of Mouton Cadet vintage Bordeaux wine from Baron Philippe de Rothschild, a free gallery guide and an exhibition poster normally sold for £4.95.

Three lecturers will be on hand during the evening to guide visitors and answer questions. The Palladian exhibition includes 120 original paintings, drawings and engravings of the house and gardens at Chiswick. It explores Lord Burlington's friendship with influential contemporary figures, including Alexander Pope and George Frederic Handel.

The 88 paintings in the Poussin exhibition have been assembled from private and public collections in western Europe, Russia and America. The exhibition opened in Paris last year and came to Britain in January.

The private viewing, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, is expected to be highly popular and readers are recommended to apply promptly for invitations. Fill in the coupon below or telephone 071-226 7450 on weekdays between 9.30am and 6pm to make a reservation. Credit cards are not acceptable.

Admission to Chiswick House, in Burlington Lane, London W4, is £2.30 for adults, £1.70 for concessions and £1.15 for children. Readers who present the coupon (right) are entitled to two admissions for the price of one until April 2, 1995. The house is open from Wednesdays to Sundays between 10am and 4pm.

THE TIMES

This entitles the bearer and a companion to two admissions to Chiswick House for the price of one. Offer expires April 2, 1995.

ENGLISH HERITAGE

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Sun 5 Mar 11.30 — **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Bramwell Tovey (cond) R Blasdi (horn) Mussorgsky A Night on the Bare Mountain; Mozart Horn Conc No.4; Ravel Pavane; Dvorak Ov. Carnival. £5 (adults) £3 (children under 16) — *Lon Phil*

Sun 5 Mar 3.15 — **BEXLEY IN CONCERT** Orchestras, bands and choirs from Bexley Music Centre. A varied programme of choral and instrumental music. £10, £9, £8, £7, £6, £5 — Friends of Bexley Music Centre

Sun 5 Mar 7.30 — **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Franz Welser-Möst. Works inc. Viennese music by the Strauss family, Shostakovich Festival Ov, Vn Conc No.1; Suppé Ov. Light Cavalry. Sponsor: Audi. £20, £21, £17, £13, £8, £5 — *Lon Phil*

Mon 6 Mar 7.30 — **BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Andrew Davis (cond) Graham Ashton (trumpet) Elgar Falstaff; Enigma Variations. David Sawer Trumpet Concerto (1st performance). Sponsor: Land Rover. £10 (unreserved) — BBC Radio 3 FM

Wed 8 Mar 7.30 — **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Marisa Jansons (cond) Truls Mørk (cello). Shostakovich Cello Concerto No.1; Bruckner Symphony No.4 (Romantic) £30, £21, £17, £13, £8, £5 — *Lon Phil*

Thu 9 Mar 7.30 — **CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** The 40's: War & Peace. Sir Simon Rattle (cond) Felicity Lott. Copland Appalachian Spring; Strauss Closing Scene: Capriccio; Vaughan Williams Sym No.5. £25, £20, £17, £14, £10, £5 — **BC/*CBSO*

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Sun 5 Mar 6.00 — **CHILINGIRIAN QUARTET, RICHARD STOLTZMAN** (clarinet) Mendelssohn String Quintet No.2, Op.15; Tavener String Quartet No.1 (The Hidden Treasure); Brahms Clarinet Quintet, Op.115. £15, £13, £9.50, £6 — Intermusica Artists' Mgt Ltd/**SBC*

Mon 6 Mar 7.45 — **WOMEN OF NOTE** Ambache Chamber Orch, Diana Ambache (pno/dir) Sophia Langdon (dir) M Martinez Sym (1800) (UK prem); Mozart Pno Conc, K.456; Haydn Sym No.85, (La Reine); C Schumann Konzertsatz (UK prem) £15, £11, £8, £6 — **ACO*

Tue 7 Mar 7.45 — **GERRY HEMINGWAY QUINTET & STEVE ARGÜELLES** Pioneering percussionists from both sides of the Atlantic. £7.50 — *"The Arts Council of England"/SBC*

Wed 8 Mar 7.45 — **ORCHESTRA OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT** René Jacobs (cond) Lynne Dawson, Gerald Finley, Rosemary Joshua, Della Jones, Bitou Venus & Adonis; Purcell Dido & Aeneas. RETURNS ONLY — **OAoE/*SBC*

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WIGMORE HALL
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Saturday 4 March 5.00 pm NB: starting time	**SATURDAY SCHUBERTIAD** Juliet Booth sop, Jamie MacDougall tenor, Malcolm Martineau pno Songs from April to July 1815 incl. *An den Mond, An die Nachtigall, Meeres Stille, Sehnsucht, Wanderers Nachtlied, Der Fischer & Erlkönig* Verdict All seats £7	Song Recital Series. Wigmore Hall
Saturday 4 March 7.30 pm	**RAPHAEL WALLFISCH** cello, **JOHN YORK** piano (NB: change of artists & programme). Beethoven: Judas Maccabaeus variations; 3 Cello Sonatas: G minor Op.5 No.2, C major Op.102 No.1, A major Op.69; Variations on Bei Männern from *Die Zauberflöte* £11, £9, £7, £5 Sponsor: Stanley Music	Clarion/Seven Muses
Sunday 5 March 11.30 am NB: starting time	**FITZWILLIAM QUARTET** Work: Italian Serenade Pianist: I Cheyrkov Tchaikovsky: String Quartet No.2 in F Op.22 £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice	Coffee Concert. Wigmore Hall
Sunday 5 March 4.00 pm NB: starting time	**FABIO ZANON** guitar HOMAGE TO VILLA-LOBOS (born 5 March 1887) Villa-Lobos: Chorus No.1 (Choro Típico) (1920); 12 Etudes (1929) Bach: Sonata in A minor BWV1003; Ohanaiewicz: Sonata Op.47 (1976) £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50	Helen Jennings Concert Agency. Wigmore Hall
Monday 6 March 7.30 pm	**MATTHIAS GÖRNE** baritone WOLFRAM RIEGER piano Beethoven: 6 Lieder Schubert: 6 Lieder; Schumann: Liederkreis Op.24 (Heine); 3 Lieder ALL SEATS SOLD (returns only)	Song Recital Series. Wigmore Hall
Tuesday 7 March 1.05 pm NB: starting time	**GOULD PIANO TRIO** Philip Dukes viola, Dominic Saddis double bass Beethoven: Piano Trio in B flat Op.11 Schubert: Piano Quintet in A D667 *The Trout* Supported by Lloyds Music Foundation & City of Westminster	Lunchtime Concert. £3 (conc £1). YCAT.
Tuesday 7 March 7.30 pm	**KREUTZER QUARTET** Sibelius: String Quartet in A minor (1889) (UK première) David Matthews: Quartet No.4; Beethoven: Quartet in C sharp minor Op.131 £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50	Sponsored by Postfinance Ltd. Mgt: UK Sibelius Society
Wednesday 8 March 7.30 pm	**IMOGEN COOPER** piano Mozart: Fantasia in C minor K396 Schubert: Sonata in A D959; Debussy: Préludes Book II £14, £12, £9, £6	International Piano Season. Sponsored by Associated Trading & Investment. Wigmore Hall/Van Walsum Mgt Ltd
Thursday 9 March 7.30 pm	**CHRISTINE BREWER** soprano NORT PAVITT piano (NB: change of artists & programme) Mozart: 3 Concert Arias; Songs by Schubert, Joseph Marx, Strauss, Richard Handley, Roger Quilter, Herbert Hughes & Cellus Dougherty £14, £12, £9, £6	Song Recital Series. Wigmore Hall
Friday 10 March 7.30 pm	**GOTHIC VOICES**/Christopher Page director FAIR STOOD THE WIND FOR FRANCE Music by Grace Brisé, Guillaume Charnesse, Guillaume de Machaut, Cordier, Bitterling, Cooke and Power £14, £12, £9, £6	French Season. Wigmore Hall
Saturday 11 March 5.00 pm NB: starting time	**SATURDAY SCHUBERTIAD** Lorna Anderson soprano, Maarten Koningsberger baritone, Nicolas Hodges piano. Songs from July to September 1815 incl. *Die Mondnacht, Die Spinnerin, An den Frühling & Das Rosenband* All seats £7	Song Recital Series. Wigmore Hall
Saturday 11 March 7.30 pm	**BEAUX ARTS TRIO** Hummel: Piano Trio in B flat Ravel: Trio in A minor (1914) Schubert: Trio in E flat D929 £16, £14, £10, £6	French Season. Wigmore Hall

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Tenor 5 Mar 7.30pm	**PIERRE BOULEZ 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** *London Symphony Orchestra, Pierre Boulez cond , Mstislav Rostropovich cello.* Ravel Mother Goose Suite Messiaen Chronochromie Boulez Messagesquisse Stravinsky Petrouchka £8 £10 £14 £16.50 £22 £30 *LSO Ltd.*
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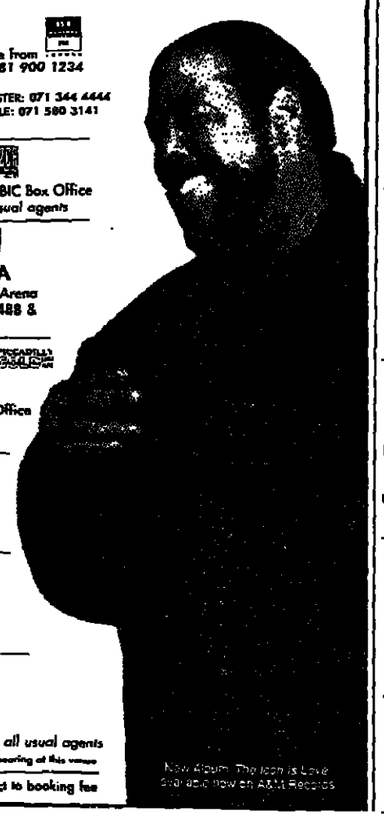
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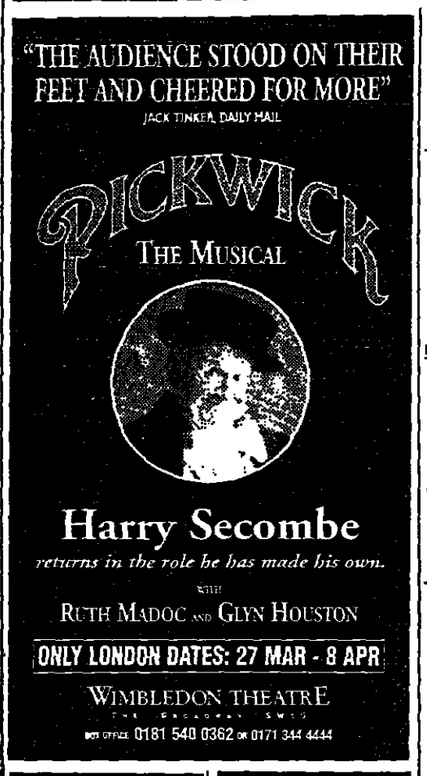
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THEATRES



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THEATRES

ADELPHI **"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE"** *Wall St Journal* **SUNSET BOULEVARD** Starring **BETTY BUCKLEY** and **JOHN BARROWMAN** 24-HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) **NO BOOKING FEE FOR PERSONAL CALLERS AT THE ADELPHI BOX OFFICE** Recorded information 0171 379 6565 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00 Mr Barrowmen does not appear Mon

ALBERY WC2 BO 0171 369 1730 CC 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) **RIK MAYALL SIMON WARD** "Rik Mayall...gives a brilliant performance" S.Tel In **'SIMON GRAY's** witty,touching and thoroughly humane new play' Daily Express **CELL MATES** Eves 8pm Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 497 9977 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 **FELICITY KENDAL MARGARET TYZACK & ART MALIK** in **INDIAN INK** **"TOM STOPPARDS TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END"** Today. Directed by **PETER WOOD**

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6043 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 497 9977 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 **Andrew Lloyd Webber's** New production of **STARLIGHT EXPRESS** **"A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT"** Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

APOLLO 0171 494 5068/ 344 4444/ 497 9977 **PETER BOWLES LISA HARROW** **IN PRAISE OF LOVE** By TERENCE RATTIGAN REDUCED PREVIEWS NOW **£5, £10, £15.** Eves 8pm, Mat Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm

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GARRICK 071 494 5085 CC 497 9977 **PAUL MERTON CAROLINE QUENTIN** Arthur Smith's new comedy **LIVE BED SHOW** Directed by Audrey Cook **"this play has jokes in it"** Ind on Sun Mon-Thurs 8.00, Fri & Sat 6.30 & 8.45pm *STUDENT STANDBY £9.50*

GIELGUD 071 494 5085/344 4444 **Rupert Graves Rachel Weisz Marcus D'Amico & Nicholas Clay** in **NOEL COWARD'S** **DESIGN FOR LIVING** Dir by SEAN MATHIAS **"TRIUMPHANT – ANOTHER CULT WEST END HIT IS BORN"** D.Mail Eves 7.45, Thur & Sat Mat 3pm

HAYMARKET BO/CC 071-930 8800 24 hr cc with fee 344 4444/ 497 9977 Evenings 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **Deanna Molloy Paul Shelley** The National Theatre production of **Tom Stoppard's "MASTERPIECE"** D.Telegraph **ARCADIA** Directed by **Trevor Nunn** **BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR** Eve Standard Drama Award 1993 Laurence Olivier Award **OVER 350 PERFORMANCES**

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LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 497 9977 Grps 0171 494 5454 **JONATHAN PRYCE** in **OLIVER!** **"LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE"** 5 Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **CHECK WITH B.O FOR RETURNS & CANCELLATIONS**

LYRIC Shaftesbury Ave BO & cc 0171 494 5045 cc 416 6086 Grps 494 5454/416 6075/413 3321/312 1970 **"FIVE STAR ENTERTAINMENT"** S.Times **AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'** **THE FATS WALLER MUSICAL** "Pure genius...takes your breath away" D.Mail Eves 8pm Mats Thur 3pm Sat 5pm **Previs Wed Opens 13 March 7pm**

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 497 9977 **OLIVIER** Today 2.00 & 7.15 **THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR** William Shakespeare **LYTTELTON** Today 2.15 & 7.30 **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW** Joe Orton. Mon 7.30 **OUT OF A HOUSE WALKED A MAN...** musical scenes from the writings of Daniil Kharms devised by Theatre de Complicite. **COTTESLOE** Today 2.30 & 7.30, Mon 7.30 **DEALERS CHOICE** Patrick Marber

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 344 4444/497 9977 Grps 930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL **CATS** Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT Bars open at 6.45 **LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE**

OLD VIC 0171 928 7616/497 997 **TONY AWARD WINNER** **JUDD HIRSCH** **"A TITANIC PERFORMANCE - AWE-INSPIRING"** Jewish Chronicle **CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER** By HERB GARDNER Directed by ALAN AYCKBOURN Previewing Now Opens 7 March Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444/497 9977 Group Sales 0171 930 6123 Groups 0171 494 1671 **THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL** **LES MISERABLES** Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 867 1044/867 1111/344 4444 (fee) 497 9977 **BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS WILLY RUSSELL'S** **BLOOD BROTHERS** **STEPHANIE LAWRENCE** **"ASTONISHING"** S Express **...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval"** D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734/ 0171 344 4444/0171 497 9977 **BEST NEW MUSICAL IN TOWN...BRILLIANT!"** M.o.S **ROY ORBISON STORY ONLY THE LONELY** "The Big O comes back to life in a great rock 'n' roll revival" D.Exp **ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI MAT** Mon-Thu 8, Fri 5.30 & 8.30, Sat 5 & 8.30 **NB:Fri perfs from 13 Mar 5.15 & 8.15**

PLAYHOUSE 839 4401/497 9977 **IT'S BACK! JOHN GOODER'S** **UP 'N' UNDER** **HILARIOUS COMEDY AT HILARIOUS PRICES** Today's Mat **All Seats £7!!** Tonight/Mon/Tues **£10!!** **Eves 8, Mats Thurs 3, Sat 5** **Theatre Rest. £10 Set Menu**

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5987/836 3464/416 6020/344 4444 cc bkg fee. Grp's 0171 413 3321 **BARRY MANILOW'S** ***COPACABANA*** "An Evening of Pure Delight" D.Mail **The New Musical Starring GARY WILMOT** "Nothing Can Possibly Top This" D.Tel ***COPACABANA*** "The Entire Audience was on it's feet" Eves 8pm, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Group discounts available **SEATS NOW AVAILABLE**

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) 836 3464 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 930 6123. **BEST MUSICAL** **Laurence Olivier Awards '93** **ALL SINGING ALL DANCING ALL GERSHWIN** **CRAZY FOR YOU** **"PUTS THE BRIGHT LIGHTS BACK IN THE WEST END IN DAZZLING STYLE"** Mail On Sunday Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 **GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK**

QUEENS 0171 494 5040 (All cc bkg fee) 497 9977/344 4444 **NIGEL HAWTHORNE** **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE** Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Sat 2.30 **LAST 2 WEEKS**

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) BARBICAN **LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST** Last Perfs: Today 2.00 & 7.15 THE PIT: **EASTER** Today 2.00 & 7.15 **STRATFORD**

Ready for nights of pot and pimps?

I am getting a little worried about Michael Grade, the ebullient, red-braced boss of Channel 4. He seems obsessed by sex and drugs. He may also be obsessed by rock 'n' roll, but I have no evidence of that.

Tonight, for instance, he has turned his television station over to an eight-hour glorification of pot culture. No, ma'am, I don't mean pots as in Etruscan vases — fascinating though a discussion of classical ceramics would be. I mean pot as in cannabis, joints, hashish, dope, grass, marijuana, and if-you-remember-the-Sixties-you-weren't-really-there-man.

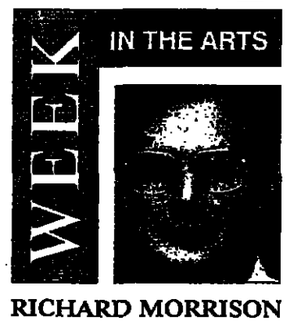
We start at 8pm with a documentary about the history of cannabis — presumably to catch the under-12s before bedtime. At 9.05pm there is a programme about the "medicinal" benefits of pot. No, really, drug addiction is terribly good for you. Everybody in Hampstead says so.

Then follows a "comic" tour of Amsterdam's drug scene; a demonstration of how to use hashish in cooking; a "counter-culture classic charting the drug-laden mad misadventures of stoned rock musicians" — and so on to 4.15am. If you can remember it tomorrow, you weren't really watching.

Having celebrated illegal substances tonight, Mr Grade and his merry chums spend the next eight Saturday nights transmitting the biggest load of filth ever seen on British TV. *The Red Light Zone* is apparently "an exciting new area of late-night programming focusing on sex, the sex industries and sexual tourism". A glimpse at the programme titles will give you the flavour: *Strippers*; *Drag King*: *Ladyboys*; *Hookers, Hustlers, Pimps and Their Johns*; *Readers' Wives*; *The Bar Girl, The Catholic, The Pimp and The Priest*; *Gender Bender*; *El Porno* and (my own favourite) *The Match that Started My Fire*.

No doubt Channel 4's ratings will soar. One thing bothers me, however. Only a few weeks ago, Mr Grade was ranting about the iniquity of Channel 4's high-minded broadcasters having to subsidise the ratings-obsessed profiteers at ITV to the tune of £50 million a year. He won a lot of sympathy for his case, too. But how do these nights of drugs and pimps fit into his "high-quality broadcasting" agenda? I may watch for a while tonight to find out. But I won't inhale, officer.

Meanwhile, those whose mission is to popularise high culture will surely be intrigued by the news that *The Sun* has started its own arts page. Admittedly, the page is only sporadic at present: twice in a month, so far. But when it does appear — well, phew what a scorcher.



RICHARD MORRISON

I claim a little credit for its evolution. A month ago I was phoned by a man from *The Sun*. "Hi, I'm Chris from *The Sun*," he said with a friendly chuckle. "Tell me about Paganini. Didn't he write the *South Bank Show* tune?"

I said yes, the *South Bank Show* tune is Andrew Lloyd Webber's arrangement of a tune by Paganini. And I looked up a few biographical details of the virtuoso violinist. "Brilliant," said my new-found friend.

Imagine my surprise, as they say in these parts, when I opened *The Sun* next day and saw a photo-spread of Vanessa-Mae Nicholson — the exotic London teenager who is being marketed as the "next great violinist" by the once-proud record company EMI. Ms Nicholson's costumes and poses need not concern us here. Suffice it to say that they would *not* suit Lord Menuhin.

But it was the headline that brought a cry of proprietorial pride to my lips. "The Teeny Paganini!" it shrieked. And in case this reference proved too erudite for its readers, *The Sun* added a little footnote relaying my potted biography of Paganini, almost word for word. I am still waiting for my consultancy fee, which I anticipate will run to four figures.

After this foray into high-brow music, *The Sun* has grown bolder. This week, it offered a critique of Tom Stoppard's new play, *Indian Ink*. Well, perhaps critique is the wrong word. In the play, Felicity Kendal appears naked — strictly in the cause of dramatic truth, of course. The episode lasts all of 45 seconds, and Ms Kendal is artfully arranged behind a mosquito net. Nevertheless, for men of a certain age, this is pulse-quickening stuff.

Naturally, no photographs exist of this exciting moment. *The Sun*, undeterred, has "mocked up" a nude photograph using Ms Kendal's head and another woman's body. "Felicity," the paper chortles, "proved that she had the best seat in the house at the Aldwych Theatre." A pun that Maestro Stoppard himself might be proud to invent!

There has not been this much tabloid interest in serious culture since that sporting American operatic diva, Maria Ewing, brought the Dance of the Seven Veils to a stunning full-frontal conclusion in *Salome* a few years back. The Royal Opera publicist of that era — a lady of, shall we say, somewhat constrained social horizons — seemed utterly taken aback by the reaction to that spectacular event. "The most *peculiar* sort of periodicals are asking for tickets," she sniffed.

Ah, innocent days! Now the scramble for audiences is so desperate in the arts world that the attention of the tabloids, for whatever reason, is not only tolerated but warmly welcomed. Or as the intrepid Ms Kendal put it this week: "You'd be selling it short if you started being coy." Quite.

CONCERT

Jaw jaw instead of more, more

ONE day — soon, I hope — we shall learn that the best programme notes are the silent ones, or even the invisible ones. Not content to leap out from every page of the programme, information is now pressed into earphones and poured out of the mouths of conductors, presenters and pre-concert talkers. Our listening is in danger of becoming over-directed.

It was perhaps in reaction to this that the sizeable audience for New Voices from the New World (a programme of American chamber and vocal music from Ruggles to Rodgers and Hammerstein) declared noisily that enough was enough by handclapping Wilfrid Mellers to silence.

Capricorn/White
Purcell Room

He *had* exceeded his brief by expanding a few words of introduction into a 40-minute survey of American music from sea to shining sea, while the Capricorn Ensemble waited anxiously in the wings. Mellers's enthusiasm for his subject is legendary, but this was neither the time nor the place.

The programme, too, was ill-sorted. A first half including knotty Nancarrow (the testing *Sonatina*, superbly played by Catherine Edwards), Lou Harrison's tough, Schoenbergian String Trio, and Carl Ruggles's massive *Evocations for Piano* is indigestible at the best of times. Five of Copland's more ingenuous songs failed to provide quite the right sort of relief. Despite Willard White's eloquent prformances, they came as something of an anticlimax.

There was plenty of time, during Capricorn's painstakingly sensitive performance of John Cage's *String Quartet in Four Parts*, to ponder on the composer's words: "My favourite music is the music I haven't yet heard." Intense, spare fragments of song, rocking lullaby and static meditation were tuned austerely one to the other through the voices of each instrument.

The astringency of Julian Grant's arrangement for chamber ensemble of *Oh What a Beautiful Morning* tuned the ear cunningly from Cage to Cole Porter and Rodgers and Hart, through to White's concluding performance of *It's a Great Night for Singing*. Well, perhaps just a goodish one . . .

HILARY FINCH

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** on a valiant Joe Orton revival

DONALD COOPER



Farce with a cold heart: Richard Wilson as Dr Rance, Debra Gillet as Geraldine Barclay in *What the Butler Saw*

Funny how the laughs dry up

What the Butler Saw
Lyttelton

This was the madcap farce that Joe Orton had just finished when his lover killed him with a hammer in 1967, and it is the one his admirers regard as his masterpiece. As a *Loot* man myself, I have always found that view puzzling, and I still do, even after seeing Richard Wilson and John Alderton run themselves ragged at the National. When production after production fails to generate the expected quota of laughter — and Phyllida Lloyd's revival is my fourth go at the piece — it is time to ask questions of myself, Orton, or both.

Has it been a failure of performance? That was certainly the case when Ralph Richardson played the role of Rance, loony inspector of Her Majesty's loony-bins, in 1969. He thought the play nasty, persistently pronounced the word "nymphomania" as "nymphromania" in protest, fluffed lots of lines, and by opening-night was doing little but bay and wail in a stricken manner, as if the Hound of the Baskervilles had wandered into Feydeau. The audience hated the play ("Gallery Boos Dead Playwright") and even barracked Sir Ralph ("give back your knighthood"). The farce was a farce.

But subsequent revivals, not least this, have been stronger, so we must look for other explanations. Could the problem be the plot? A shrink called Prentice (here, Alderton) tries to hide the girl he wants to seduce (Debra Gillett), first from his wife (Nicola Pagett), then from Rance (Wilson). There follow increasingly elaborate subterfuges involving a criminal hotel porter, a policeman and others. But these have no real logic to them because nobody onstage is shockable. You have to feel the power of respectability if you are to laugh when people desperately try to hide misdeeds — and how can you do so when Pagett's Mrs Prentice is gamely proclaiming her nymphomania and, as it turns out, taking her husband's infidelities in her stride?

Farce cannot easily breathe in a permissive atmosphere. Nor, perhaps, can it flourish in a wordy one. The best of *What the Butler Saw*, as Lloyd's production confirms, is its subversive, neo-Wildean wit: "You were born with your legs apart, they'll send you to your grave in a Y-shaped coffin", that sort of thing. But imagine trying simultaneously to listen to *The Importance of Being Earnest* — one of the play's influences, incidentally — and fall about at Ray Cooney's latest. Orton puts an audience in a similar bind. It was noticeable at the National that what began as gales of laughter ended as blustery gusts.

Wilson exploits that bony, scowling face and prim, glowering voice of his. Alderton begins as the smug, suave consultant, and ends looking like a crash-victim in *Casualty*. Pagett struts bossily about in a bulbous 1960s wig. But all their energy and finesse left me feeling that the play's main interest is the insight it gives into Orton's mind. The sane act mad, the rational irrationally. Men dress as women and vice versa. You can see the play dates from the time of the emergence of alternative psychiatry and gay lib. You can feel Orton, the homosexual anarchist, everywhere.

Lloyd's production reaches its climax, more forthrightly than most, with gunshots, blood and chaos. That, too, has its personal echoes, for Orton added it at a time when his relationship with Kenneth Halliwell, his murderer, was deteriorating into violence and madness. It is not very funny, and not meant to be. Could another reason the play refuses to be hilarious be that it is too autobiographical?

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

JAMES PUREFOY



Profession: Actor

Age: 30

What's he been in? Matthew Warchus's *Death of A Salesman*; Katie Mitchell's *Women Of Troy*; Tom Conti's *Present Laughter*, or "Absent Laughter" as he jokily calls it. He was originally snapped up by the RSC as a student at Central.

What happened in between? "My career took a strange left turn when I did *Coasting*, a television dromedy (drama-comedy) in 1990," Purefoy says. "The strange nether world of Light Ent. It's only in the past three years that I've been able to steer back to what I want to do."

What is he in at the moment? He is Tony, the young aristocrat taken over by his butler, in *The Servant* at the Birmingham Rep. Purefoy gives an outstanding performance — dapper, comic, savage, pitiable — transforming from a strapping chap into a shuffling alcoholic wreck.

London appearance: He looks distinctly dashing on a rainy afternoon, arriving at his local café like the hero of a Merchant Ivory film in creamy linen.

What happens next? Come the summer, he will be everybody's Merchant Ivory hero: a cavalry corporal in *The Feast Of July*, an adaptation of H. E. Bates's novel. However, he says: "This is a very different Merchant Ivory film. It's about working-class people in a small town in Somerset," the county where he grew up. He has also been in Yalta, filming the Napoleonic drama *Sharpe's Sword* for Central Television. The cavalier Cri- mean chauffeurs had to be breathalysed every morning before the drive across the mountains. "Cracking," says Purefoy in a humorous blend of the laddish, the throw-away and the enthused.

More reckless driving: He was expelled from Sherborne — very happily — for taking a combine harvester for a hay-wire spin. The Absurd Adventures of Purefoy do not stop there. He tells of "running like buggery up Brewer Street, a pinball pursued by an absolute pitbull," then being beaten up by a Jehovah's Witness, crying with laughter because he could not believe it.

More seriously: "The only way theatre will survive is if it's really good, if it gets inside people's hearts and minds. I care about that passionately," he says earnestly. "The one place I get truly angry is in a theatre when something's badly done. And when I'm bad, it makes me more depressed than anything I've experienced."

KATE BASSETT





THE SUNDAY TIMES

Zoe Heller in New York

"In the evening a man whom I'd met at a dinner party 10 days before rang and invited me out for a drink. I knew this man was not for me — he wears strings of beads and *red jeans* and I think, though I can't be sure, he had eyeliner on when I met him. Still, he's very handsome and I figured seeing another man — even a dweeb in beads — would be good for me . . ."

Zoe Heller joins The Sunday Times — her new

WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◪ BROKEN GLASS: Arthur Miller's masterly drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. *David Thacker's production, with Henry Goodman and Margot Leicester superb as the central Jewish couple*
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◪

☐ CELL MATES: Pik Mayall and Simon Ward play Sean Bourke and George Blake, in Simon Gray's low-key, slightly disappointing play
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE: Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true *love*.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; *mats Sat 2.30pm*. Until Mar 11

◪ CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER: Judd Hirsch recreates his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's 1992 Broadway hit, a wisecracking, thought-provoking play about fathers and sons, aggro and anti-Semitism, set in New York's Lower East Side. Alan Ayckbourn directs, transferred from Scarborough
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Now previewing, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Opens Mar 7 ◪

☐ DANGEROUS CORNER: Keith Baxter directs an excellent cast in Priestley's psychological thriller about the grey areas in people's lives: it is wiser not to probe into
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed 3pm and Sat 5pm. Until Mar 11

☐ DESIGN FOR LIVING: Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *menage a trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's awardwinner, with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm ◪

■ EASTER: *Strindberg's drama of* shame, self-pity, penance, clairvoyant joy in nature and the freedom of springtime. *Katie Mitchell directs.*
Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. Final performances ◪

◪ FEVER PITCH: The one-man show adapted from Nick Hornby's best-selling account of a lifelong obsession with *Arsenal FC*. Stephen North takes us through 45 minutes each way
Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 2132). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6.15 and 8.30pm

◪ FULL MOON: Final performances for Jon Strickland as the hero of Caradog Prichard's powerful and *haunting semi-autobiographical novel*, set in the slatemine districts of North Wales. Helena Kaut-Howson's *acclaimed Theatr Clwyd production*
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Today, 2.30 and 7.30pm. ◪

☐ IN PRAISE OF LOVE: Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama *about being very brave when facing death*. Richard Olivier directs
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 *(0171-494 5070). Now previewing, 8pm.* Opens March 6

☐ KILLER JOE. Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

◪ MAMA I WANT TO SING: The longest-running Off-Broadway black musical, based on the life of the Harlem singer Doris Troy (who here plays her *own mother). With Chaka Khan*
Cambridge, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Tue and Sat, 3pm. Until Apr 8

■ THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR: *Terry Hands's first* production here, with Denis Quilley as the fat knight and Richard McCabe an *insanely jealous husband*
National (Olivier), South Bank SE1 (0171-928 2252). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. ◪

☐ THE STRIP: Phyllis Nagy's latest, set in Las Vegas where an odd bunch of characters is converging for a total eclipse. Steven Pimlott directs a large cast that includes Cheryl Campbell, Nicholas Farrell, Nicholas le Prevost
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Apr 7.

◪ MYSTERY BRUISES: The filth of Ken Campbell's marvellous solo talk-shows: parallel universes, the Holy *Grail and the Grand Theory of* Everything.
King's Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tonight, 8pm, Sun, 3.30pm. Final week.

◪ THE PRESENT. *Australian control freaks bewildering a naive young Brit.* Nick Ward's latest, excellent acting but weird stuff.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until Mar 25.

■ THE THREEPENNY OPERA: Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival of Kurt Weill's opera. Tom Hollander sings Macheath and words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht"
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ◪

◪ UP'N'UNDER: John Godber's rugby play: a scratch club pits itself against peak performers
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Now previewing, 8pm, opens mar 8 ◪

■ ZORRO — THE MUSICAL. The *masked swashbuckler rights wrongs, defies gravity and gives the audience a* great time in a typically rumbustious Ken Hill show
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Mar 11 and 18, 3pm. *Until Mar 18* ◪

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Arcadia**, Haymarket (0171-930 8800). ◪ **Blood Brothers**, Phoenix (0171-867 1044). ■ **Copacabana**, *Prince of Wales* (0171-839 5972). ◪ **Don't Dress for Dinner**, Duchess *(0171-494 5070)*. ■ **Five Guys Named Moe**, Lyric, final week (0171-434 5045). ■ **Grease**, Dominion *(0171-416 6060)*. ■ **Les Misérables**, Palace (0171-434 0909). ◪ **My Night With Reg**, Criterion (0171-839 4488). ☐ **Only the Lonely**, Piccadilly (0171-369 1734). ◪ **A Passionate Woman**, Comedy (0171-369 1731). ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**, Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400). ☐ **She Loves Me**, Savoy (0171-836 8888). ■ **Sunset Boulevard**, Adelphi (0171-344 0055). ■ **Three Tall Women**, Wyndhams (0171-369 1736). ◪ **The Woman in Black**, Fortune (0171-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW RELEASES

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15). See Critics' Choice, page 2.

LES ROSEAUX SAUVAGES (15). Sensitive drama about French provincial adolescents during the Algerian War: a childhood reminiscence from director Andre Téchiné
MGM Panton Street (071-930 0631)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15). Amnesiac pornographer faces his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Minema** (0171-235 4225) **Renoir** (0171-637 8402)

◆ **ANDRE**. Adventures of an orphaned seal. Well-packaged family film with Keith Carradine, Tina Majorino and a scene-stealing sea lion
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

BANDIT QUEEN. Dynamic, controversial drama about India's legendary outlaw: a ground-breaking production by Shekhar Kapur
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

◆ **BLACK BEAUTY**. Unsatisfying, gloomy version of the children's classic, featuring Sean Bean and David Thewlis. *Director, Caroline Thompson*
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 *2636) Trocadero* ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

HEAVENLY CREATURES (18): Strange, fatal friendship of two New Zealand teenagers. Compelling, imaginative, true-life drama from director Peter Jackson.
Lumiere (0171-836 0691) **MGM Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Screen/Baker St** (0171-935 2772)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan
MGMs: Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LEON** (18): Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty thriller shot in New York by French director Luc Besson. With Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

MGMs: Chelsea *(0171-352 5096)* **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 *6148) Odeons: Kensington (01426* 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U). African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (18): Warped lovers embark on a shooting *rampage, with the media in pursuit.* Weaponsome excess from director Oliver Stone, with Woody Harrelson and *Juliette Lewis*
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Gate** ◪ (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG). Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18). Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson
MGMs: Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12). Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon. Director, Curtis Hanson.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **RUDYARD KIPLING'S THE JUNGLE BOOK**. Muddled live-action adventures of jungle boy Mowgli. With Jason Scott Lee, Lena Headley, Cary Elwes. Director, Stephan Sommers
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) *Trocadero* ◪ *(0171-434 0031)* **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ *(0171-792 3332)*

◆ **THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE** (18). Frolics and chicanery at a turn-of-the-century sanitarium. Overdone health food satire, with Anthony Hopkins, Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick. Director, Alan Parker
Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18). Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs. Kerry Fox, Christopher Eccleston and Ewan McGregor
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION**. How to survive long decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. Director, Frank Darabont.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

SOLITAIRE FOR 2 (15). Body-language lecturer pursues archaeologist with ESP. Awkward comedy from Pig Farmer co-director Gary Smyor. With Mark Frankel and Amanda Pays
MGM Trocadero ◪ Sat only (0171-434 0031) **Warner** ◪ Sat only (0171-437 *4343)*

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun; Roland Emmerich directs
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS** (PG). Talky but acceptable film debut for the stars of television's *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Patrick Stewart meets William Shatner. David Carson directs
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

THREE COLOURS: RED (15). Kieslowski's compelling film about criss-crossing lives: a majestic climax to his trilogy. With Irène Jacob and Jean-Louis Trintignant.
MGM Panton Street (0171-930 0691)

VANYA ON 42ND STREET (U). Absorbing film of Andre Gregory's treatment of *Uncle Vanya*, caught in rehearsal by Louis Malle's cameras at a decrepit New York theatre. Wallace Shawn, Julianne Moore, Brooke Smith and George Gaynes head the fine cast.
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721)

NEW ON VIDEO: A masked marauder; Altman's mosaic; all about Glenn Gould

■ **THE MASK**
Entertainment Video. PG. 1994
RUBBER-faced comic Jim Carrey gets his best screen vehicle so far in this Jekyll and Hyde affair about a mild bank official who unleashes the beast within when he dons a wooden mask. Helped by computer-generated special effects, Carrey leaps round the screen, changing shape almost as often as the genie in *Aladdin*. No other live-action film has captured so well the madcap energy of 1940s cartoons. A strong supporting company includes Peter Riegert, supermodel Cameron Diaz and a wonderful performing dog called Max.

■ **DRACULA PRINCE OF DARKNESS**
Lumiere, 15, 1965
"MY *master's hospitality* is renowned," mutters the sepulchral servant, Klove, welcoming British tourists to Castle Dracula. Christopher Lee's Count arrives rather late, in the form of a box of ashes. But after a few pints of Charles Tingwell's blood, he is soon back in working order, red-eyed, fangs at the ready. No dialogue, though, just a few snake-like hisses. Chirpy Francis Matthews leads the band of Brits, but it is Barbara Shelley who haunts the *mind* as the party's vampirised Victorian wife. *In the original* widescreen ratio, essential for *the full Hammer horror effect.*

■ **A WOMAN OR TWO**
Arrow, 15, 1985
THE only film in history to star Gérard Depardieu, a French-speaking Sigourney Weaver and Dr Ruth Westheimer, American television's diminutive sex counsellor. As such, the romantic comedy has some curio value; it may also cause laughter if you are feeling very indulgent. But put this contrived tale of a bashful archaeologist, an advertising executive and the fossilised remains of the first French woman alongside a classic such as *Bringing Up Baby* and it withers away. Routine direction by Daniel Vigne, best known for *The Return of Martin Guerre.*



Eye-boggling comedy: Jim Carrey in *The Mask*, which perfectly captures the madcap energy of 1940s cartoons

■ **SHORT CUTS**
Artificial Eye, 18, 1993
ROBERT ALTMAN at full throttle, weaving 22 characters and ten or so plots into a compelling portrait of lives on the edge in Los Angeles. Raymond Carver's source stories do not emerge unscathed: Altman's collage-effect loses some of their simplicity. But the mosaic structure generates its own kind of power, and superb acting from Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins *and company* carries the enthralled viewer from vignette to vignette. Previously a rental release: now available to buy in the original widescreen format.

■ **32 SHORT FILMS ABOUT GLENN GOULD**
Electric, U, 1993
ECCENTRIC style meets eccentric subject in Francois Girard's wonderful portrait of the iconoclastic pianist who shunned concert platforms for the recording studio for the *last 20 years of his life. The 32* vignettes (echoing Bach's 32 *Goldberg Variations*) dissect the musician's contradictions. Colm Feore's persuasive impersonation of Gould jostles with reminiscences from colleagues and little abstract films. There is much humour, and even more great music. A joyful experience.

■ **TRUE LIES**
CIC, 15, 1994
IN which superspy Arnold Schwarzenegger bashes heads, torches châteaux, flies Harrier jets and saves the world from the terrorist group Crimson Jihad: high-budget mayhem staged with aplomb by director James Cameron. The nudge-nudge *silliness* that infected *Last Action Hero* is still present, though the film's principal fault is the laborious, unfunny domestic comedy that fills out the middle and demeans Jamie Lee Curtis (playing Schwarzenegger's wife).

GEOFF BROWN

Wham, bam, thank you, Mao

In China, rock-starved youth are taking up fake Fenders and an attitude from 1976

There is more to Chinese counter-culture than a takeaway. The proof is The Beijing Bastards, an unambiguous title for a season of new Chinese cinema at the ICA.

Like the movie from which the season takes its name, these films are a nasty shock for anyone who thinks of Chinese youth as photogenic lasses looking after their blind grandmothers. Lovers and friends, let alone disabled relatives, get brutally short shrift from the maximum R & B kids of this generation.

It is not surprising that these films, and the music they feature, have been banned. But their milieu is both far more outrageous than one would have imagined yet reassuringly familiar. This is 1976, the Sex Pistols and the Clash all over again, but this time chanting: "Will I scrub you to death, or you'll break first? I want to play heavily. Oh! Play heavily." Much harder in Mandarin than "No future".

The music has emerged from the Beijing Academy of Fine Art, whose long, canvas-stacked corridors are at the centre of *The Days*, the story of a couple of young teachers, played by real-life famous artists. They and their paint-smeared studio reappear in *Beijing Bastards*.

Everyone in Beijing under 35 is trying to sell a painting to an American or cut a deal with a Hong Kong label. Everybody wastes time at public telephones, hoping for promised dollars from Hong Kong, phoning New York for potential deals, waiting for the same Big One that every hoodlum with a guitar has been looking for since 1956.

ROCK IN CHINA

"We're all social outsiders. We all do exactly what we like," one character mutters, chain-smoking through rehearsals in an underlit club. This is how rock has been and should remain, frozen in the dirty aspic of oriental appropriation, a souvenir of itself.

Beijing Bastards features Cui Jian, China's biggest rock star, not banned, merely discouraged from playing too many concerts for too many people. He is as famous as Jagger but with an official status more akin to Johnny Rotten when *God Save the Queen* reached No 1 despite a BBC ban.

Watching his band perform, I found it difficult to grasp the magic. The ponderous riffs and creaky moves do not immediately inspire the throwing of underwear. It seems like pleasantly quaint pub-rock, and the mosh is the *Politesse* Pogo, a neighbourly bounce.

Rather more thrilling is He Yong, whose hit *Bell & Drum Tower* wafts through *Beijing Bastards*. A demented *mélange* of Iggy Pop and Fu Manchu, he races on stage, long hair over his face, screeching from the nicotine canyon of his lungs: "I have big lumps and small lumps on my head — some were made by others, some by me."

For Beijing rockers the formative experiences were Wham! and Live Aid. When Wham! played China in 1985, they were a revelation of biblical proportions. Live Aid was the first pop event to be circulated by video cassette. "There was an Icelandic group not long ago," He Yong admits.

The roots of Chinese rock are as patchy as a roadie's bomber jacket. In the early 1970s, teenagers gathered clandestinely to play guitar "rebel music" in parks. They had probably heard of the Beatles but, even today, many people have not heard of Elvis.

Bands such as the Face, Yellow People or the influential Black Panthers were based around whatever tapes were in circulation, donated by tourists and friends abroad. Ghastly acts such as Didi or Tang Dynasty demonstrate that bad taste is universal.

The hard world of *Beijing Bastards* — of bad beer, fake Fenders and *absolute cynicism — is not about* communism but what it means to be Chinese. Rejecting all clichés of Chinese culture, these desperadoes are not *afraid to embrace a few of ours*, creating a parallel universe of hip rebellion instantly recognisable yet impossibly exotic.

ADRIAN DANNATT

● *The Beijing Bastards season is at the ICA, London, until Thursday (0171-930 3647).*

Noël Coward's *Peace in our Time* tackles the great 'What if ..?' question of the Second World War. See it on tour

Pride handed down to us

THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

WHAT would have happened if Nazi Germany had successfully invaded Britain? The great Noël Coward provided at least one answer with the moving *Peace in our Time*. The play is set in a London pub and follows the lives of ordinary people under enemy occupation as they demonstrate the mixture of obstinacy, independence and humour that Coward defined as London pride. *Peace in our Time* has been revived to mark the fiftieth anniversary of VE day and is now on tour:

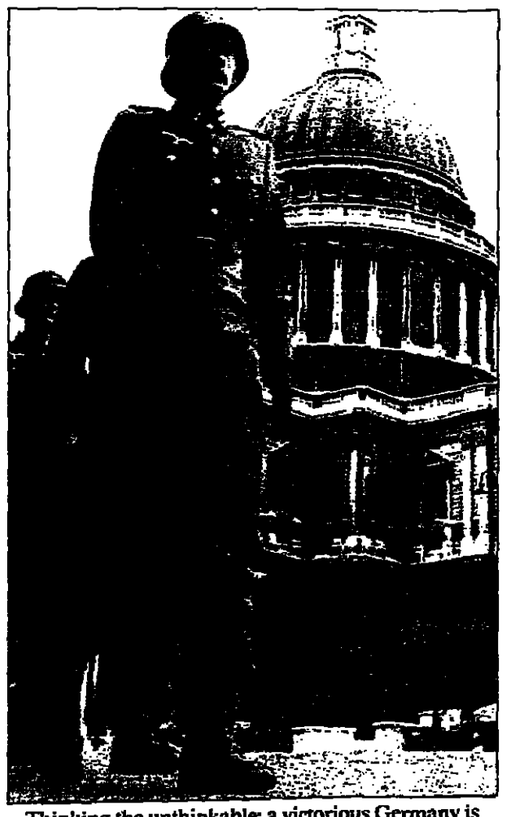
RICHMOND
Richmond Theatre
March 7-9
● Two tickets for the price of one (normally £15 and £18). Tel 0181-940 0088

CARDIFF
New Theatre
March 21 (evening); March 25 (matinee)
● Best available seats for £6 (normally £7.50 to £15). Tel 01222 394844

NORWICH
Theatre Royal
March 29-30
● Save £4 on the four top-priced tickets (normally £7, £10, £12 and £13.50). Tel 01603 630000

BATH
Theatre Royal
April 3
● Two tickets for the price of one (normally £16 & £19). Tel 01225 448844

NEWCASTLE
Theatre Royal
April 10-15
● Best available seats for £10 (normally £12 to £16). Tel 0191-232 2061



Thinking the unthinkable: a victorious Germany is portrayed in Coward's *Peace in our Time*. See first item

EDINBURGH
Festival Theatre
March 29
● THE Royal Shakespeare Company presents Ian Judge's acclaimed production of Shakespeare's delightful comedy, *Love's Labour's Lost*. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £15.50 and £17.50). Tel 0131-529 6000

PERTH
Perth Theatre
March 13-16
● ON ITS hundredth birthday, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, by Oscar Wilde, remains as fresh and funny as ever. Club members can save 20 per cent on tickets (normally £11). Tel 01738 621031

GLASGOW
Tramway
March 8
● NEW Moves Across Europe is the largest theatre-dance festival in Scotland. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £6) for the double bill of *Alcool*, featuring Desiree Defauney, and Ellen van Schuylenburch in *Silence Is* ... Tel 0141-227 5511

SHEFFIELD
Crucible Theatre
March 13, 20
● RICHARD HURFORD's *Boys' Stuff* is an outrageous, unsentimental journey into *the mind of an infertile man*. Fire, flood and assorted acts of God pile up over an explosive Christmas week as he battles with family, friends, doctors and his fantasies of fatherhood to prove he is still in control. Club members can buy tickets for £4.25 and £5 (normally £8.50 and £10). Tel 0114-276 9922

HARROGATE
Harrogate Theatre
March 17
● IN STARK contrast to *Boys' Stuff*, Alan Bleasdale's incisive comedy, *Having a Ball*, tackles the delicate area of vasectomies. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one in the stalls or circle (normally £10 and £11.50), attend a pre-show lecture and take home a free programme. Tel 01423 502116

BLACKPOOL
Grand Theatre
March 14-15
● A NEW comedy, *Lunch Girls* is all about four women and five telephones. Their lives, loves and jealousies are revealed in this fast and witty play. Club members can buy tickets for £5 to £11 (normally £7 to £13). Tel 01253 28372

LIVERPOOL
Everyman Theatre
March 7-11, 14, 21, 28
● THE inspiration for the successful television series of the same name, *Watching* traces the lovelife of mismatched Liverpudlians Brenda and Malcolm. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £5 to £8). Tel 0151-709 4776

COVENTRY
Belgrade Theatre
March 6-25
● RUMU SEN-GUPTA directs one of Shakespeare's great comedies, *Twelfth Night*. Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £3.50 to £12). Tel 01203 553055

BEDFORD
Corn Exchange
March 27-28
● FOLLOWING the sell-out success of its production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Bedford Theatre Company turns from Shakespeare comedy to tragedy with *Macbeth*. Club members can save 20 per cent on tickets (normally £8). Tel 01234 219005

SOUTHAMPTON
Nuffield Theatre
March 9-April 1
● C.P. TAYLOR'S *And a Nightingale Sang* captures the hopes and fears of a Southampton family during the war. Club members can save £2 on all tickets (normally £7.95 to £10.95). Tel 01703 671771

Our other offers

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TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or ring 01206 791737 using your credit card. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673
TO BOOK, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage

RECORDINGS: Annie Lennox misses the point; Queen Mary is back in fashion; a good week for Scottish composers

POP ALBUM

David Sinclair

■ **ANNIE LENNOX**
Medusa
RCA/BMG 74321257172★
TO judge by the slew of old songs that are *currently* being rehashed by contemporary acts, pop has reached a stage roughly comparable to that of jazz after 1955. Following a 30-year period of intense innovation, there is now a vast stock of songs that have proved themselves from which mainstream performers will increasingly draw to create "new" repertoires in response to shifts in popular taste.

In the wake of recent, similar albums by Luther Vandross and Gloria Estefan, Annie Lennox is the latest middle-of-the-road superstar to weigh in with a collection of old tunes selected, as she puts it, "more by instinct than design". With songs encompassing the obscure (her current hit, *No More "I Love You's"*, was a minor success in 1986 for a group called the Lover Speaks) and the overexposed (*A Whiter Shade Of Pale*), the album nevertheless covers the bases with shrewd precision and seems destined to be a colossal success.

But whatever its fate in the marketplace, as an artistic endeavour *Medusa* is a deeply flawed album. Lennox has an impressive range and a pleasing pop voice, but she irons out the emotion from a succession of soul songs, including Al Green's *Take Me To The River*, the Temptations' *I Can't Get Next To You* and Bob Marley's reggae classic *Waiting In Vain*, and completely misjudges Neil Young's *Don't Let It Bring You Down*, glibly skating over its lyric in a way which neutralises the plaintive appeal of the original.

On the plus side is a jazzy reworking of the Clash song *Train In Vain*, performed the way you suspect Mick Jones would have sung it himself if he had been blessed with any sort of a voice. But it is hardly enough to tip the balance sheet in the album's favour.



Diva in distress: Annie Lennox's treatment of a selection of oldies on *Medusa* is flawed but will be a commercial success

POP SINGLE

David Sinclair

■ **CHER, CHRISSIE HYNDE and NENEH CHERRY with ERIC CLAPTON**
Love Can Build A Bridge
London 857 979★
RELEASED on Monday, ten days before Red Nose Day, this year's Comic Relief single is, unfortunately, no joke. An excruciatingly naff "power ballad", complete with glutinous string section, mountainous chorus and a lyric too anodyne to flavour milk, it is a *well-meaning disaster*.



Chrissie Hynde, Cher and Neneh Cherry: unfunny

A minimum of 44p from the sale of each CD single goes to the Comic Relief charity organisation and, with this in mind, those of a generous disposition might feel inclined to buy a copy for the hilarious live recording of *Can't Get Enough Of Your Love* featuring Theophilus P. Wildebeest (Lenny Henry) and Tom Jones in the "clash of the cod-pieces", or as Henry calls it "the battle of the big horn and the little horn." Alternatively, donations may be sent direct to KPMG, PO Box 678, London EC4Y 8AS.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **CHRISTIAN McBRIDE**
Gettin' To It
Verve 523989-2★★★
CRITICS asked to choose a dream team from the startlingly large pool of youthful talent in New York would be sorely tempted to put saxophonist Joshua Redman, trumpeter Roy Hargrove and pianist Cyrus Chestnut at the head of their list. That is precisely the stellar line-up to be found on the much-anticipated debut by Christian McBride, a phenomenally powerful double-bass player who is the heir apparent to those stalwarts, Milt Hinton and Ray Brown.

The line of succession is made explicit on *Splanky*, a Neal Hefti theme that has long been a staple of the Count Basie band's repertoire. Brown and Hinton join in on a three-way conversation which must count as the quirkiest version of the tune ever committed to record. McBride never once sounds overawed.

What is most encouraging about his work — like Redman's — is that it has remained open to so many different influences. The result is a collection that weaves together traces of Horace Silver-style hard bop and the more harmonically brittle compositions of Wayne Shorter. McBride freely acknowledges his debt to Frank Sinatra's *A Swingin' Affair* on *Stars Fell on Alabama*, while the title tune gets seriously funky *à la* James Brown. As both a performer and composer, McBride covers a good deal of ground without falling prey to self-conscious pastiche.

He does not make the mistake of pushing himself to the fore on every number, allowing Redman and Hargrove as much space as they need. Enough has been written about Redman already. Suffice it to say that his soloing grows leaner and more economical with each outing.

BAROQUE

Stephen Pettitt

■ **PURCELL**
Music for Queen Mary
Westminster Abbey Choir/New London Consort/Neary
Sony Arc of Light SK 66243★★★
QUEEN Mary is having a good time on disc at the moment. Here is the latest offering, devoted to some of the music Henry Purcell wrote for her coronation, birthday and funeral. It has added authenticity because it is sung by the present-day successors of the choir Purcell worked with and in the very place where he worked with it. What is not authentic, but unavoidable, is the hum of traffic outside Westminster Abbey picked up in the choral pieces. But the sense of space in the sound is lovely, while the director, Martin Neary, paces the performances well and his choir is in fine voice.

The disc flits easily between the public and private, the sacred and secular. After the opening vigorous coronation anthems, *I was glad* and *Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem*, we are offered two airs by John Blow composed in 1692 and 1694. The later one, *The sullen years are past*, is a particularly fine example of ground bass. But we are given all of Purcell's fine birthday ode of 1689, *Now does the glorious day appear*, a highlight of which is Michael Chance's exquisitely poised delivery of the beautiful countertenor aria, *By beauteous softness mixt with majesty*.



Purcell: sacred and secular

The new disc makes a point of recording the Funeral Sentences as they are now believed, thanks to Bruce Wood's researches, to have been performed at the time — with Purcell's simpler setting of *Thou knowest, Lord* inserted between Thomas Morley's *I am the resurrection* and *I heard a voice*. Wood has also concluded that military side drummers — not timpanists — played an anonymous "Old English March" to link the three marches specially composed by Purcell, James Paisible and Thomas Tollett.

Different contrast is provided by the two elegies *O dive custos* and *Incassum, Lesbia* — passionate, intense tributes sung beautifully by Emma Kirkby and Evelyn Tubb.

□ **PURCELL**
Fantasias and In nomines
Fretwork
Virgin Veritas VC 5 455062 2★★★
THIS record presents the most private side of Purcell in 16 harmonically and contrapuntally amazing pieces that combine unashamed high intellectualism with modest deference to his forebears and sheer, finished beauty. It includes all ten four-part Fantasias (including one left incomplete), the three three-part Fantasias and one Fantasia "upon one note" (it is, too) in five parts, as well as the two *In nomine* settings.

Fretwork plays as any chamber ensemble should, acutely sensitive and intensely involved.

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ **MOZART**
Basset Horn Bon-Bons
Stadler Trio and friends
Philips 446 106-2★★
IF Mozart had been asked to write for a trio of basset hounds, I am sure he would have obliged; but, despite the canine artwork on this disc, the music is for the basset *horn*, an angular sort of alto clarinet much loved by the composer.

The Stadler Trio (members of Frans Brüggen's Orchestra of the 18th Century) has drawn together some of Mozart's most delectable writing for the instrument. Most of it is in the *Hausmusik* genre: cultivated, mellifluous, often witty pieces written for the private pleasure of chamber musicians and friends. The two *Divertimenti* (KV439b Nos 2 and 4) are typical. The first starts with the dying fall of the K488 Piano Concerto, but soon becomes deflected from anything too serious by a series of minuets and a rollicking rondo, while the second hints that the music of *Idomeneo* was brewing not too far away.

The clear honey of a clarinet joins the darker syrup of the basset horns for the Adagio in B flat. This separates two sets of three tiny *Notturni* for three basset horns and three human voices (Camille van Lunen, Myra Croese and Peter Dijkstra). These little Italian love ditties evoke the air of the great Terzetto from *Cosi fan tutte*, and balance perfectly the lustrous playing in this treat of a recital.

□ **FRANCAIX**
Chamber Music
Marwood Ensemble/Haffner Ensemble
Collins Classics 14382★★
WOODWIND fanciers have another treat lying in store for them: two wind quintets and a cor anglais quartet of Jean Françaix, now 83 years old and still going strong. There is nothing here from the past prolific ten years of his output except the Second Wind Quintet with its longer thoughts, smoother contours and more abrasive mischief-making.

This is the late-flowering lust for life of a composer who vowed to take the place of Saint-Saëns and whose career, egged on by the encouragement of Ravel, really took off in the Paris of the 1930s. From this period, the Marwood Ensemble puts forward his String Trio and plays its pattern of scherzos with the same sophistication and urbane confidence with which it was written.

Between the two lip-cracking, lung-breaking yet easy-listening Wind Quintets is the 1970 cor anglais quartet, a jazzy harlequinade of short movements.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **MACKENZIE**
The Cricket on the Hearth Overture; Incidental Music to Twelfth Night and Coriolanus; Burns: Second Scottish Rhapsody; Benedictus
BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra/Brabbins
Hyperion CDA66764★★★
AS the man instrumental in setting up the Associated Board examinations, Sir Alexander Mackenzie has good cause to be remembered by generations of musicians. In fact Mackenzie (1847-1935) was almost as renowned in his lifetime as an administrator as a composer. This splendid disc, however, gives us a chance to reassess his talents.

His Scottish ancestry is heard best in *Burns: Second Scottish Rhapsody*, Op 24, which not only honours Scotland's greatest literary son,



Burns: nationalist symbol

Robert Burns, but also uses the tune known as *Bruce's March* that for centuries symbolised Scottish nationalist aspirations.

Mackenzie's music for *Twelfth Night* and *Coriolanus* (in Elgarian vein) is of considerable interest, while the overture to *The Cricket on the Hearth* makes one curious to hear more of that operetta. The *Benedictus*, number three of Six Pieces for Violin, Op 37, is perhaps Mackenzie's best-known work, and his orchestral arrangement lends it an impassioned quality.

The performances, by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins, are exemplary, giving Mackenzie's music the best possible opportunity to speak for itself.

□ **McEWEN**
Solway Symphony; Hills o'Heather; Where the Wild Thyme Blows
London Philharmonic/Mitchell
Chandos CHAN 9345★★★
A GOOD week for Scottish composers. Hard on the heels of the Mackenzie disc comes this equally valuable one of works by Sir John Blackwood McEwen (1868-1948). This is a follow-up to last year's *Three Border Ballads*, and it presents more music associated with the Border country: notably the *Solway Symphony*. McEwen's only large-scale symphonic work to receive repeated performances.

McEwen is the more unconventional composer. The *Solway Symphony* opens with an extraordinarily Brucknerian passage, and the influence of Sibelius is later evident, too. This is boisterous music and Alasdair Mitchell gives the London Philharmonic brass its head.

The other two pieces, performing editions by Mitchell of *Hills o'Heather* and *Where the Wild Thyme Blows*, show the more reflective side of the postwar McEwen, and receive aptly sensitive performances.

OPERETTA

John Higgins

■ **GILBERT AND SULLIVAN**
HMS Pinafore
Evans/Palmer/Schade/Suart/Allen/Welsh National Opera Orchestra/Mackerras
Conifer CD-80374 (1 CD)★★★
CONIFER has assembled for *Pinafore* a cast of the calibre that Sir Malcolm Sargent used to gather round him for the series of Gilbert and Sullivan recordings he made for EMI in the 1960s. Two rising young singers, Rebecca Evans and Michael Schade, sing Josephine and Ralph; the Martyn Green of our time, Richard Suart, is Sir Joseph Porter; and the saucy ship itself is manned by Thomas Allen, Richard Van Allan and Donald Adams, as experienced a crew as ever set sail. *Felicity Palmer's robust Buttercup* completes the line-up.

But pride of place goes to Sir Charles Mackerras, 70 this year, yet still conducting with the verve he brought decades ago to *Pineapple Poll*, the jaunty score he stitched together from Sullivan. Clearly he loves his composer still.

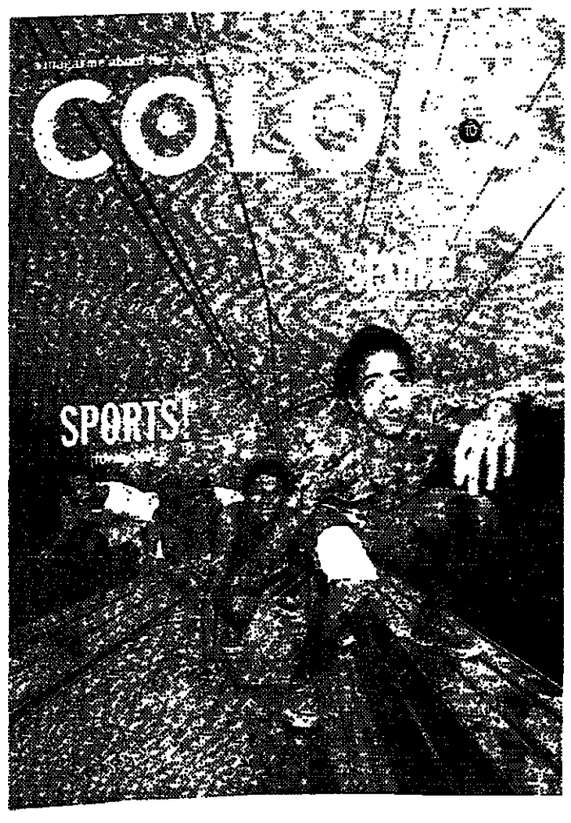
Conifer drops the spoken dialogue and goes for a single CD. *Pinafore* is one of the shorter pieces in the G & S canon, so the music is accommodated neatly and the diction is so good that only a few whiskery jokes are missing. And there are plenty of the latter still left in the songs themselves: Suart's little chortle at Sir Joseph's recollection that a "junior partnership" was the only ship he ever had seen is a joy. He will get on very well with the cut-glass Hebe of Valerie Seymour, the first cousin he ends up with. Allen brings the urbanity of his Covent Garden Don Alfonso to Captain Corcoran, especially in his Act II *Song to the Moon*. It is hard to imagine him being reduced to the ranks at the end.

Schade's keen lyric tenor serves him excellently as Ralph Rackstraw and it is no surprise, in this defiantly class-conscious piece, when he is destined for the upper deck. Evans's equally engaging soprano should have made her right for Josephine, but she does not sing with the ease of her colleagues. But nor did Elsie Morrison for Sargent: Josephine is not the easiest of roles. For fluency, turn to Adams's Dick Deadeye. He also sang the villain-informer on that Sargent set, which must make him the longest runner in the G & S business.

Van Allan leads the Welsh National Opera Chorus into the final verses in praise of being an Englishman with mighty fervour. Just as well the studios were in Swansea and not Cardiff Arms Park. So we shall give three cheers and one cheer more for this new recording of *Pinafore*.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

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Satisfying tasks for soggy days

George Plumptre, The Times Gardener, beats the rain with pruning and tidying

TONY WHITE



George Plumptre's *Buddleia davidia* has been pruned into neat domes of this year's leafy shoots above a cluster of thick, old branches at the base

Trying to garden during the past month has constantly reminded me of a passage in one of my children's editions of *Winnie the Pooh*. It starts raining on page 73 and is still raining on page 100. In a small garden like mine, the main problem has been walking anywhere on the lawn without making a quagmire. And for those of us who garden mainly at weekends it has been a question of hat, coat and boots and make the best of it.

I will worry about the pests and diseases that the wet, mild weather has fostered later in the year, when most of them rear their ugly heads. But, already, vine weevil is widespread in greenhouse pot plants, and a friend has caught so many mice that she is sure the weather has encouraged them to breed with gusto.

However, we have been promised future benefits. There has been enthusiastic media discussion about the aquifers, things I have not thought about since geography A level. We are reliably informed that they are full, which, with brimming reservoirs, means that whatever happens this summer we will be able to water the garden to our hearts' content.

In my garden, the main casualty has been some bulbs of pink, lily-flowered tulips planted in a tub whose drainage arrangement failed to perform. The tulips that I hope will give a mass display along the front of the house, have shown healthily above the ground. But with no similar signs of activity from my tub, I checked and found a sorry tale of saturation and rotted bulbs. Otherwise, the most serious damage is on the lawn, where a grassless bog is the result of goalmouth scrambles during the boys' games of football.

I am not normally a meticulously tidy person, but something about the weather has made me determined to keep on top of the shabbiness that has overwhelmed the garden. All my terracotta pots and tubs had become covered with muddy stains, so they have been scrubbed clean. So, too, have the brick and stone paths which, since the autumn, had grown extensive, slippery patches of moss.

The main thrust of my campaign has been concentrated on pruning, clearing the dead growth off perennials, and forking over compacted soil to let in air and encourage drainage.

I have finished pruning my shrub roses, whose freshly cut stems, with new growth just breaking, always look satisfying. More extreme treatment has been necessary for two old climbing roses against one boundary fence. Last year they produced half a dozen or so flowers about 10ft in the air above gaunt, bare stems. These have been pruned right back, leaving only four or five of the healthiest. Although they will take a year or two to regain their height, it will be as denser, evenly-flowering plants (I am encouraged by the success I achieved when I did the same to an old rose in our previous garden).

Similar untidiness had overtaken two plants of *Buddleia davidia*, so I have just pruned them back. Their bedraggled, sprawling shape has been replaced by neat domes of this year's leafy shoots above the cluster of thick, old branches at the base. *Lavatera* 'Barnsley', which any cold January or February wind makes shrivelled and ugly, has had the same treatment. Although the plant looks rather naked, it will not be long before the frame of pruned shoots is covered with new growth.

Alchemilla mollis and hardy geraniums are some of the perennials whose tufts of old, brown foliage have been clipped away. This reveals the tight clusters of new growth, which I think are one of the most encouraging sights of gardening in the spring. Similarly, the late-flowering *Clematis viticella* planted against a trellis pillar have had their brittle old stems cut right back to leave just two pairs of buds above the ground.

With other plants, discretion has got the better of my urge for tidiness. I have left the old stems on both *Salvia uliginosa* and the bushier plants of *S. neurepia*, as they would be susceptible to a sharp frost or cold snap. They will be trimmed back in a few weeks.

One of the best plants during the past few weeks has been *Daphne odora* 'aureomarginata'. Covered with clusters of pink-flushed white flowers, highlighted against evergreen leaves edged in creamy-white, its scent has filled several square yards of the garden even on the most rain-soaked days.

Equally rewarding has been a new addition since last year: a group of *Iris reticulata* — with bright blue or mauve flowers carried on short stems — which I planted towards the front of one border, along with some small daffodils *(Narcissus cyclamineus)*.

The daffodil leaves are just emerging, but the deep purply-blue iris flowers, with their flashes of yellow, have introduced the warm, cheerful note that the last few weeks have demanded. When I bought them, I could not resist trying a plant of a new hybrid, *I. histrioides* 'George'. This has dark mauve, almost velvety-looking flowers compared with the better-known blue-flowered *I. histrioides* 'Major' that people normally recommend. 'George' is extremely smart and, with the reticulatas close by, has shown me that early-spring flowering irises are plants to grow more of in the future.

WEEKEND TIPS



- *Prune buddleia (left) hard, removing all old shoots down to two or three buds.*
- *Divide and replant the corms of montbretias* (Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora).
- *Cut down late-summer flowering* Clematis jackmanii *and* viticella *to stems showing just two pairs of buds. Do the same with herbaceous varieties, such as* C. integrifolia.
- *Split the plants of perennial* Lobelia cardinalis *that were lifted in the autumn and brought in for protection over winter. The new plants can be put out in April.*
- *Plant shallots so that the tips of the bulbs just protrude on to the surface.*

Think ahead if you want to create a special display of container plants

A bower on a balcony

One shopping trip in May, and anyone can have a balcony which is a riot of petunias, pelargoniums, lobelias, fuchsias and busy-lizzies. The trouble is, it will look like everyone else's. Yet it is not difficult to make *container plantings more interesting* and productive with a few carefully placed orders when the frosts are over.

If your balcony is dark, windy, cat-patrolled and north-facing, God help you. But if it is sunny at least half the day, and in a mild region, try tender and semi-hardy perennials and easy summer bulbs, looking always for a high proportion of flowers to leaves. Few of these plants appear at your average garden centre, so contact specialist nurseries and consult *The Plant Finder*.

I have discovered many unfamiliar and pretty plants, thanks to my curved London balcony, 25ft long but only 2ft 6ins wide. It is packed with pots whose inhabitants — unlike their owner — thrive in the city's foetid summer air. Winter days and nights below zero are the testing time. Wrapping pots in straw or insulating fibre is impractical and not, I suspect, really effective. Things must take their chance. But if you learn how to take summer cuttings, you will have young plants small enough to bring inside during a great freeze.

Investing in a few grandly proportioned clay pots gets a virgin balcony off to a good start. I prefer Far Eastern woodfired pots to chic, hand-thrown terracotta, and they can be a fraction of the cost. Unless you are an Atlas, treat big pots as a fixture: few things are more likely to wreck your back than struggling with heavy pots in a small space.

Essential techniques for balcony gardening are controlled watering (slow and thorough with a thumb half-over the spout), and potting plants on as they outgrow their pots. For younger plants, use John Innes general purpose, for mature ones use number three compost, with a generous pinch of bonemeal.

To avoid treading dirt into the carpet inadvertently, designate part of the balcony as a mess area for storing flowerpots and compost, plus seed compost or vermiculite if you mean to try propagation. Large bags save hassle, and a fortune if bought outside London: in Oxford, 60 litres of compost cost me £3.80.

To reduce watering, remember to incorporate wetted polymer crystals. Washed pea-grit sold in bags at builder's yards makes a neat surface on pots and cuts down water loss. Finally, you need a trowel, a bucket for mixing, and Phostrogen for weekly feeding in the growing season — simply dilute a teaspoon per two-gallon watering can.

SIMON WALKER



Patricia Morison tends her balcony garden filled with less familiar plants

In early spring, plants are at their most vulnerable and aphids can finish them off, so I watch like a lynx and use a hand-spray of ICI Rapid insecticide. Later in the season it is usually enough just to rub off aphids.

A warm balcony is ideal for choice herbs such as lemon verbena. Sowings of basil and rocket, made from May onwards, grow apace in a good summer. The neatest type of herb containers — an attractive alternative to the grow bag — are the wooden wine boxes in which serious wine-bibbers buy a dozen bottles at a time. If you are not in that league, try to sweet-talk a wine-merchant into parting with boxes.

For cheerful charm, no balcony plant offers more than the tender sage, *Salvia grahamii*. It starts to flower in May and drops the last of its small, bright scarlet flowers in October. Its bright green leaves are aromatic, and cuttings root easily. In an 18in pot, it makes an airy bush 3ft high and wide. Although wind regularly snaps its branches, *S. grahamii* (also sold as *S. microphylla* var. *neurepia*) will shoot back vigorously: one of mine has soldiered on for nine years. All tender salvias are worth exploring, with peach and raspberry shades appearing in the *greggii* hybrids.

Long-flowering, too, are neat, upright, pink *Anisodontea capensis* and the shrubby, sprawling, sticky-leaved mimuluses. *Mimulus aurantiacus* is one of my favourites, some 2ft wide and rather shorter, covered from late June to August with deep-throated, soft orange flowers. Tenderer with me are paprika-red *M. aurantiacus* var. *puniceus* and buff *M. longiflorus*. All are child's play from cuttings.

Convolvulus sabatius is a summer-long cascade of lilac funnels, though I find it hard to keep it through the winter. Other charming small-flowered sprawlers are rose-coloured, grey-leaved *Sphaeralcea munroana* and *Malvastrum lateritium* with its painted, apricot faces.

Blue notes come with ixiolirions for May, and, in July, the stately grace of agapanthus — unless you prefer them white or violet. Sparaxis (harlequin flower) is a charmer hardly ever seen these days. But for glamour, nothing surpasses a pot of lilies. However, unless you live in a "soft" water area, avoid late-flowering Asiatics which loathe lime. I stick to easy, compact, June-flowering lilies such as *L.* 'Connecticut King' and Olympic Hybrids.

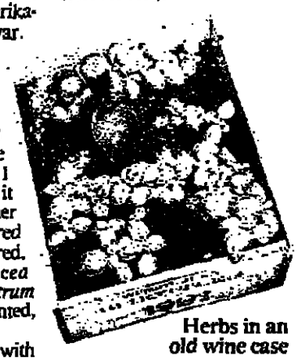
For climbers, look for those that twine, and do not mind having *warm roots* — definitely not roses, clematis or honeysuckles. Eccremocarpus, the Chilean glory vine, is stunning, or try yellow *Jasminum mesnyi* and scented trachelospermum. Tender, dazzling white *Solanum jasminoides* flowered prettily for several years in one of my large pots until the house-painters crushed it.

Mitraria coccinea is an evergreen oddity, with dangling vermilion flowers. Said to need shade and hate lime, I found it thrived on London tap water until it outgrew its space.

Plan now — with an initial outlay of some £30 on half a dozen choice plants, petunias will soon be a thing of the past.

PATRICIA MORISON

● *Suppliers: Green Farm Plants (01430 23302); Brian Hiley (0181 647 9679; mail order available); Burncoose and South Down (01209 861112; mail order); Hopleys (01279 843509); a wide choice of lilies from De Jager (01622 831235); and Peter Nyssen (0161 748 6666).*



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A reason to paint the sky

Make the most of your skyline with strong shapes and silhouetted grasses

You do not need to have a woodland garden to think about the skyline. If you are lucky enough to have a high bank or a steeply rising back garden that shows itself against the sky, then the skyline is yours for the planting. It can be made so much more varied than a skyline of trees because there are so many more varied shapes and densities among herbaceous plants. Beth Chatto is known for her mastery of wide herbaceous plantings, yet she is always keen to let them lead up into shrubs and trees and the open Essex sky. "Painting the sky" she calls it.

There are great advantages to having a small skyline to play with because some of the smaller plant shapes are so dramatic. After all, what trees can make fountain-like shapes on the skyline like grasses can? What plant can make neat spherical shapes like those of drum-stick alliums without any clipping?

Movement is another advantage of a smaller skyline. Most of the trees we can grow in this country do not sway much in the wind, unless it is very strong; herbaceous stems are much more flexible.

The skylines I play with are two large raised beds that stand two feet above the general level of the garden. Tall perennials planted there are completely silhouetted against the sky. There are some big clumps of *Filipendula palmata* which withstand all the wind can throw at them. The fat, bamboo-like stems sway together like commuters in a rush-hour tube, but none ever goes down, and the rather flat, fluffy heads of the flowers show off their structure all the better from below.

Plants which throw up individual flower spikes from a mound of basal foliage make excellent skyliners. I like to use francoa, which makes pink wands a yard long. Agapanthus is good too, especially the tall, broad-leaved varieties, although they are not as reliable in the ground as they are in pots. Alliums offer a range of drum heads in all shapes and sizes. Unfortunately, older plants cannot cope with wind, and they run to seed, so I cut them down after flowering. In less prominent positions, they will be good through into the autumn, as dried heads.

Best of all against the sky is the giant fennel, *Ferula communis*. From a mound of feathery leaves like a cut-leaved maple comes a stem 8ft tall or more, fat as a broom handle, which spreads a candelabrum of flower at the top. The stem grows with single-minded fury in two to three weeks, and is far too intent upon growing to be affected by any kind of wind.

Grasses make good skyline plants not just for their movement but for their transparency. The great Spanish oat, *Stipa gigantea*, produces a fairly unremarkable 30in bound of foliage, like a softer pampas grass. But its copper and gold flowers come months earlier than the pampas, in June or even late May. The flowers are thin enough to see through, and never still, except on the calmest of days. The open-textured flower head never looks better than when seen against the sky. With grasses, you could experiment for ever.

But some weight is required among all that lightness. Raised beds call for shrubs that look good when seen from below. Not for raised beds is the indeterminate base of weigela or philadelphus. Something is needed which not only covers itself right to the ground, but also has interesting sides. First prize in the side stakes goes to the shrubby elm, *Ulmus* 'Jacqueline Hillier'. Its dense branch structure has an equally dense twig structure in a series of overlapping dishes, like so many cupped hands. It is a delight, and just as happy in mixed plantings as in formal isolation, catching the eye and making you ask, "What could that be?". Once you know it, you will spot it at 50 yards.

Other well-furnished domes can be found in *Salix lanata*, *Mahonia* 'Undulata' (with a little encouragement), and *Berberis verruculosa* and *callianthа*, which have a white underside to the leaf.

STEPHEN ANDERTON

TED DITCHBURN



Stephen Anderton has "planted" his skyline with tall perennials and sturdy grasses

GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON replies to readers' letters

Q I saw a documentary on the Prince of Wales's garden at Highgrove and decided that I, too, would have a wild flower garden under the trees in my little wood. Last summer I sprayed the ground elder and have subsequently dug the wood twice and applied tonnes of compost. Where can I purchase wildflower seed for a woodland planting? — Tony Purefoy, Weybridge, Surrey.

A I wish I had your faith that the ground elder was beaten after one season. I bet all that compost will kick-start the lingering pieces into life — be prepared to spray again before planting or sowing.

Grass seed can be bought with wildflowers included, or you can buy the flower seed separately. Most wildflower grass seed mixes vary according to soil type rather than to the suitability of light and shade. Choose a suitable mix from a large seed supplier such as British Seed Houses Limited, Bewsey Industrial Estate, Pitt Street, Warrington, Cheshire WA5 5LE (01925 654411). Many garden centres sell wildflower seed of individual species, and the seed list of the Hardy Plant Society (available to members only) is an invaluable source of suitable exotic woodlanders. Contact Pam Adams, Little Orchard, Great Comberton, Pershore, Hereford and Worcester WR10 3DP.

Q I am trying to tame ten acres of French woodland and meadow. Nettles and brambles are the main problems, the latter in impenetrable masses. Is there a weedkiller which would allow us to grass over the affected areas straight away? And how do we get rid of the brambles? — David Smith, Montjoie, France.

A Weedkiller containing glyphosate will solve your nettle problem, and allow you to sow grass almost immediately. I would tackle the brambles using a brushcutter (a metal rotating disk, like a strimmer) and a big bonfire. With the plants thus weakened, you could spray the young regrowth with a chemical brushwood-killer containing Triclopyr. With old established brambles it is almost as easy to cut off the tops and dig out the roots as it is to wait for them to succumb to sprays. Patience and a good spade can work wonders.

Q Every winter one of my garden borders gets covered with a layer of twiggy "hatch" a couple of inches deep, blown out of a row of cypress trees in my neighbour's garden. Can I use it as a mulch, compost it, or should I dig it in? — Mrs V. M. Whitley, Chester.

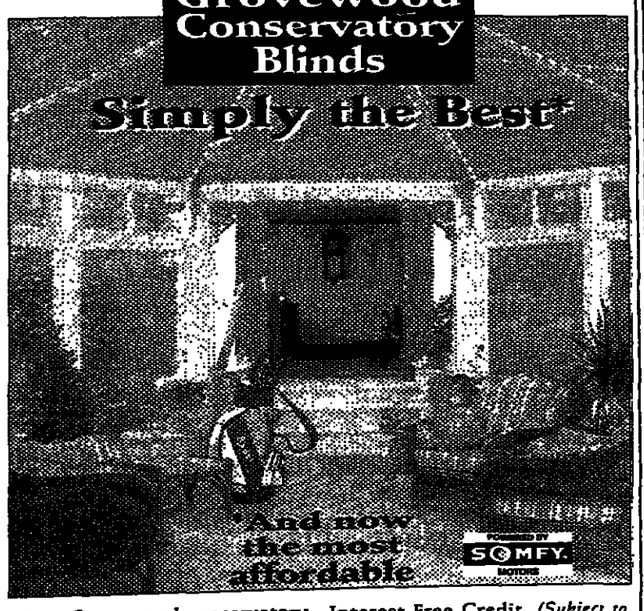
A Digging it in will achieve little, but as a surface mulch it could be very useful. Coarser pieces (three to six inches long) make a useful winter protection over tender plants. Finer pieces can be used as a mulch to conserve moisture under rhododendrons, azaleas and heathers. Better still, put it through the shredder if you have one, and this will produce an excellent fine mulch for any border, applied 1in-2in thick. Once shredded it stays put much better.

● *Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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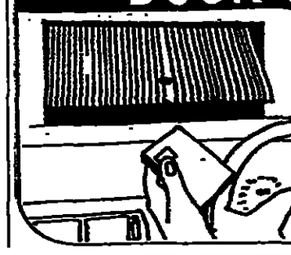
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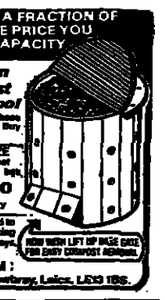
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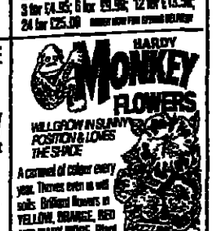
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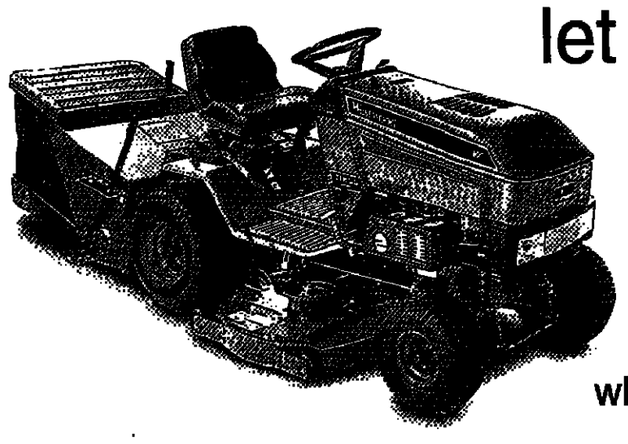
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Sell it again, Sam

Joseph Connolly discovers the magic of old film posters

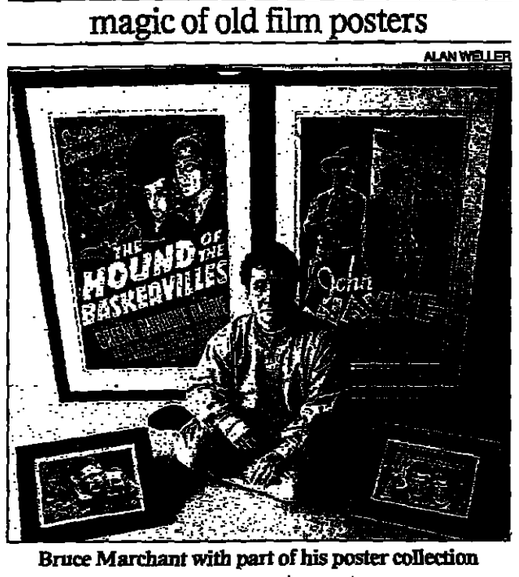
Film posters have been one of this century's most evocative and alluring methods of advertising. Next Thursday, Christie's South Kensington celebrates 100 years of cinema in style with what is billed as the finest sale of film posters ever staged in Europe. Many are drawn from the collection of the 72-year-old American singer Mel Tormé, with more from the pioneering film producer Hal Roach, best known for his Laurel and Hardy films, who died in 1992, aged 100.

There are so many good posters on offer that it is difficult to select a few to illustrate the range and quality of the collection, but here goes: *The Seven Year Itch* (1955), the one with Marilyn Monroe and that billowing white dress (estimate £400-£600); the only known copy of Ealing Comedy's *The Lavender Hill Mob* (1951, artwork by Ronald Searle, estimate £5,000-£7,000); *Citizen Kane* (1941, estimate £2,500-£3,500); *The Outlaw*, featuring the generously endowed Jane Russell and irresistibly labelled "Not Suitable for Children", (1946, estimate £250-£450); and, among hundreds of other things, widely collected James Bond posters at modest estimates (£150-£450 each).

Modestly priced, too, is a selection from Hitchcock films: *Psycho*, *Vertigo*, *To Catch a Thief*, *Rear Window*, *Dial M for Murder* (all between £200 and £500). The earlier *Rebecca* (1940) is put at between £1,200 and £1,800.

The Hitchcock posters of the 1950s and 1960s represent an underrated and undervalued field, says Bruce Marchant, an avid collector. "The Hitchcocks of the 1930s can go for £5,000 to £15,000, but the best-known ones, such as *Psycho* are, for some reason, always very cheap."

Mr Marchant, 30, sometimes trades his duplicates "to make ends meet" while awaiting his next commission as a sculptor ("There haven't been any jobs going for 18 months"). His interest in posters began ten years ago. "A friend had bought a poster for a lurid B



ALAN WELLER

Bruce Marchant with part of his poster collection

picture, *Deadly is the Female*. He paid $500 for it (international prices for film posters are quoted in American dollars). I told him he was mad. Within months, I had spent $600 on one of only two known British posters for my favourite film, *The African Queen*. I was hooked." That poster, Mr Marchant says, could now fetch about $2,000 (£1,260).

His collection has grown to about 50, in addition to hundreds of lobby cards (see fact file, right), particularly those featuring Bogart.

The good news for beginners is that there are thousands of lesser posters and lobby cards available, for £5 to £100, at fairs, film memorabilia shows and shops selling old magazines.

"Most of the 1960s stuff is very cheap," Mr Marchant says. "The Beatles and Bond are different — between £200 and £500 — but you see lovely Hammer posters dripping with blood for about £25 and, despite their popularity, some *Carry On* posters go for as little as £10, lobby cards less.

"The most expensive 1960s poster ever is for the film *2001*; 12 different designs were issued, but there is one extremely scarce poster of a psychedelic eye that was sold recently for $3,500 (£2,216). You have to remember that 99 per cent of all film posters sell for less than $1,000 (£633)."

All Mr Marchant says is borne out by three lots in the forthcoming Christie's auction, each of them comprising 250 British quads (see fact file) in varying condition, and estimated at between £200 and £300. Another lot comprises ten war film quads, including *The Great Escape*, *The Guns of Navarone*, *The Longest Day*, *The Eagle Has Landed* and *Von Ryan's Express*, from £200 to £300.

However, other films, other prices: in 1993 one of four known one-sheets (see fact file) for *Frankenstein* (1931) sold for $198,000 (£125,340).

What is Mr Marchant's advice for budding collectors on a tight budget? "Always be guided by your own taste. Some people go for a certain decade or their pet actors and directors — I collect Frank Capra and Bogart lobby cards — but for me the attraction is the artwork itself, the colours and the energy.

"Foreign posters are a good buy: often the image is superior to the standard British or US posters, particularly the Italian ones, and they are a lot cheaper. A good example in the Christie's sale is a Belgian poster for *Casablanca* (1943), estimated at £600 to £900; the standard US one-sheet would cost more than £3,000.

Mr Marchant recommends consulting all the poster books (Cinema Bookshop and Zwemmer are reliable sources), combing film memorabilia fairs, auction catalogues and specialist shops, such as The Vintage Magazine Company.

How good must the condition of a poster be to make it collectable? "All posters were folded, so creases are inevitable. If the poster is fairly recent, only the odd split would be acceptable. On an older poster, whitening or discoloration along the creases is OK, but no piece should be missing — especially lettering or a star's face — unless the poster is of legendary rarity. Restoration and linen-backing can be carried out on the really scarce items, but this can be more expensive than the price of the poster."

Mr Marchant will be bidding for two posters in the Christie's sale: *Birdman of Alcatraz* (1962, £200 to £300), with graphics by Saul Bass, one of the most collected of recent artists; and the rare French version of the 1931 Gary Cooper film *City Streets*. "But," he says, "the latter is estimated at £5,000 to £7,000 and I can't afford it. I'll go for it anyway."

Is this the ultimate poster of his dreams? "No. The one I really want is for an obscure John Wayne film called *The Oregon Trail*. There are only three known, and if it came up it would probably cost $15,000 (£9,495), but I'd sell *everything* to get that. It's the best western poster *ever* ... although I haven't actually seen the film."

The Outlaw poster, right, (1946) could fetch £450



Fact file

☐ **US one-sheet** — one piece poster, 41in x 27in.
☐ **US three-sheet** — originally pasted up in three pieces, 81in x 40in (and hence rare).
☐ **British quad** — one piece, 30in x 40in.
☐ **British half sheet** — one piece, 22in x 28in.
☐ **Lobby cards** — heavy board, 11in x 14in, usually in sets of eight.

☐ Vintage film posters will be sold at Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (0171 581 7611) on Thursday, March 9, at 2pm. Viewing Tuesday, March 7, 10am-5pm; Wednesday, 9am-5pm; Thursday, 9am-noon.

☐ A film memorabilia fair will be held at Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1 on Saturday, March 11, 10am-5pm. Entry fee, £5.

☐ The Cinema Bookshop, 13-14 Great Russell Street, London WC1, (0171 637 0206). Zwemmer, 80 Charing Cross Road, London W1 (0171 240 4157). The Vintage Magazine Co, 39-43 Brewer Street, London W1 (0171 439 8525).

SALEROOM

☐ Chinese porcelain recovered from a ship that sank while on its way to Europe 178 years ago, goes on sale at **Christie's Amsterdam** on Monday and Tuesday. It includes classic Chinese blue and white painted soup tureens by the hundred at £500 to £3,000, and about 5,000 dishes decorated with the distinctive "Starburst" pattern or with the "Double Happiness" design at £50 each.

☐ The "Fifth Beatle", Stuart Sutcliffe, was a skilled artist as a sale of paintings at **Phillips** shows on Tuesday. His *Abstract* (£400 to £600) combines scratching techniques, fingerprints and many layers of paint. The sale also features a pencil portrait of the composer Gabriel Fauré by John Singer Sargent, RA (£4,500 to £5,000).

☐ Among the furniture being sold by **Bonhams** on Wednesday are a Morocco leather workbox in the shape of a sarcophagus at £200 to £300, and a bronze bust of Napoleon at £120 to £180.

☐ Two rare eyebaths are highlights at **Phillips** pottery sale on Wednesday (£1,200 to £1,500 and £1,500-£1,800).

☐ **Christie's** hopes to raise £400,000 to £600,000 on Friday for a portrait by the pre-Raphaelite artist William Holman Hunt of his second wife, Edith. A century ago the painting caused scandal as Edith was the sister of his first wife, Fanny.

SARAH JANE CHECKLAND

● *Christie's Amsterdam, Cornelis Schuytstraat 57, 1071 JG Amsterdam (010 31 20 575 5255). Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-629 6602). Bonhams, Montpelier Street, London SW7 (0171-393 3900). Christie's, 8 King Street, London SW1 (0171-839 9060).*

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A Few Good Men... OK I'm a reasonable woman, one would be amazing! Are you tall, slim, articulate, 30's - 40's, n/s, interesting and fun to be with? I'm 45, slim, bubbly, intelligent, attractive, blue chemin, Swiss, R4 & Capital, MG's, rocky English coastline, TLC, cooking scrummy dinners, travel & lots more! There must be one decent man out there. Write now and tell me why it's you and I'll call for a chat. (Surrey/Reply Box No 3927

AN elegant cultured warm-hearted slim divorced lady good life-style interests incl, arts travel wining & dining seeks similar minded gent over 5'9" under 64. Home counties. Phone no with genuine replies to Box No 4010

ATTENTION GENTLEMEN Phone Haydyn Wellesley Singles for that special person. 0171 499 7394 Weekdays: 10.30am-7.30pm. Weekends: 0181 686 2967

ATTRACTIVE media exec 42 WLTM prof London man for dinner & conversation around cosy log fire. Box No 3948

ATTRACTIVE professional woman (53) n/s, living and working in Geneva with possibility to retire and relocate, is looking for a warm, affectionate relationship. She enjoys good food + wine, travel, cinema and theatre, is loyal and sincere. She is seeking a well-educated, cultured man, aged 50/60 with complementary interests and attributes. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 4012

AFRICAN professional female, 38, separated, intent on living in NYC! Tall, slim, attractive looks/personality, sophisticated, unconventional, very self- aware. Main interests art, theatre, cinema, travel, health / fitness, reading / writing. Are you my male equivalent?! Any nationality, 6ft or more, n/s, 36-45. Recent photo pls.Reply to Box No 3989

ALONE ON HOLIDAY.. Join a schooner party in Turkey for a Bohemic non-directed holiday, watersports & really good food in the company of other discerning travellers. Day/Dreams 071 637 8991/631 4435

A Man of Integrity (38-42) sought by a woman of Charm (35) to help write the happiest chapter of all. London/ Surrey/South. Please send photo and reply to Box No 4045

ATTENTION! Stunning prof long haired brunette, 23, 5'6", Pamela Anderson physique, v. warm hearted & fun-loving enjoys theatre, clubbing, working out, dancing and soul/dance/swing music seeks 23-30yr old attractive prof man, similar interests, excellent SOH, honest & sincere with a real zest for life!! Plse reply with photo to Box No 4128

ATTRACTIVE affluent Scandinavian lady, 40ish. Seeks tall professional man 40-50 with GSOH to share holidays and weekends with. Must love animals, nature, sports and a quiet life. No clubbers or heavy drinkers. London based. Please Reply to Box No 3926

ATTRACTIVE, intelligent, single, effervescent lady - young at heart working in a corporate world wants a seriously rich equivalent tall n/s man to enhance her life and lead her to romance with interests in travel, skiing, sailing, food and champagne. Reply with photo to Box No 3913

ATTRACTIVE Chinese graduate 34 seeks professional n/s, solvent & child-loving man with a zest for life (30-40) for long-term relationship. All replies with photo or photocopy of photo will be answered. Please Reply to Box No 4107

ATTRACTIVE, warm, well travelled, professional, Irish lady. GSOH, (40). London based, seeks interesting and fun-loving man to put the spring back in her step and the sparkle in her eye. Box No 3923

ATTRACTIVE articulate Asian lady single n/s seeks that special man who will show her that life does begin at 40. Applications in writing please and recent photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3970

ATTRACTIVE, bright, enlightened, warm and sensitive single well spoken lady wgsoh in SW. London seeks similar male partner 40 - 50. Photo + Ph no appr Please Reply to Box No 4118

ATTRACTIVE intelligent lady loves life, luxuries and luxury WLTM sophisticated articulate ambitious devil for the best times ever! Photo ensures reply. Box No 3513

ATTRACTIVE, slim professional young 40 year old Australian female living in London seeks intelligent successful witty tall male for caring relationship. Please Reply with photo to Box No 4197

ATTRACTIVE professional lady 50 retiring seeks educated gentleman who values music, walking, travel, bridge, horses and garden. London/Essex. Please Reply to Box No 4207

ATTRACTIVE female seeks kind sensitive tall loving male 38-40 who enjoys the finer things in life.Photo app. Distance no object. Reply to Box No 3956

ATTRACTIVE prof leggy blonde seeks tall intelligent man 30-45. Photo app.Reply Box No 4004

BEAUTIFUL French miniature c.1948 timeless perfection a host of exquisite features, needs lasting protection and care in elegant unfurnished surroundings. A priceless objet d' art for a discerning wealthy gentleman. Sorry no smokers or pessers. Distance no object. Photo app. Box No 4149

BEAUTIFUL Blue-eyed vivacious 23 yr old, slim, professional enjoys music, nightlife, working out, but also lazy days with the right guy. Seeks male 28-36 with similar varied interests. Plse send photo with reply to Box No 4128

BORED with being independent, slim, stylish town & country lover, 32, seeks sociable, outgoing man to share the pleasures of life. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 3928

BRISTOL area. Redhead, vivacious widow 40's professional GSOH. Respect, urgent Children understanding? Wining, dining, culture & fun. Please Reply to Box No 3960

BRYN TERFEL IEUAN EVANS fan seeks sociable successful man 50-60 to enjoy opera, food, fine wines and countryside. S.E. Wales. Reply Box No 3537

BUSINESSWOMAN, mid 40s, feminine not feminist, WLTM gentleman with GSOH to share travel, dining, theatre and big fires! London/Surrey/Hants. Photo app.Reply Box No 4086

CARIBBEAN Babe mid 20's exuberant personality, offer companionship to the millionaire who will spoil her in abundance.Reply Box No 3902

CELTIC female, tall, elegant, over 40. Likes simple pleasures/luxuries, seeks affinity with adoring, self-supporting, child-orientated male counterpart. Photograph plse.Box No 4131

CHESHIRE Lady - 46yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and meets a lot of love and has the most to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with sensitive faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

COMPARABLE Friendship for keeps, sought by slim, pretty academic, 34, loves Bach, books, movies, Formula 1, cricket and one small boy (4). Photo app. Scotland/South East Eng anywhere Box No 3942

COTSWOLDS Countrywoman, 40's, attractive, slim, interested in music, painting, tennis, board/card games seek kind, sincere n/s man.Box No 3878

CURVACEOUS, creative, cultured, caring cosmopolitan. Intelligent, attractive, lively, vivacious, wide interests, young 50's, loves sea/country seeks tallish, warm, n/s man who values quality, loyalty & sincerity 45-55. London.Box 4156

DARLINGTON Lady - 46yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and meets a lot of love and has the most to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with sensitive faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

DISPARAGING Lady - 46yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and meets a lot of love and has the most to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with sensitive faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

DOMINANT Lady - 46yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and meets a lot of love and has the most to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with sensitive faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

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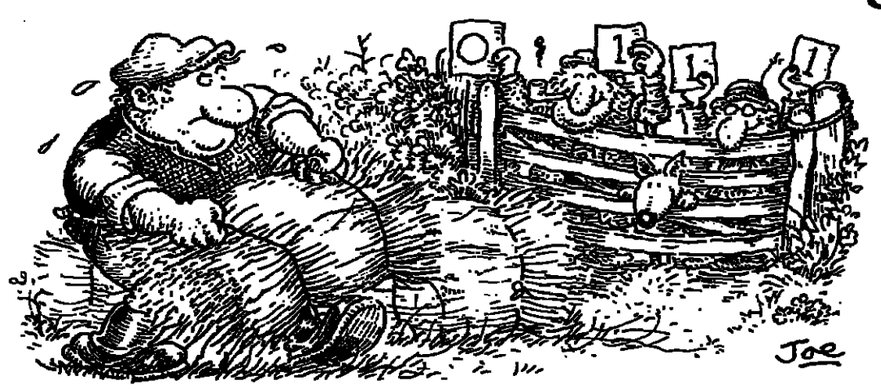
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DOMINOES Lady - 46yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and meets a lot of love and has the most to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with sensitive faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

DOMINOS Lady - 46yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and meets a lot of love and has the most to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with sensitive faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

**DOMINU

Stacks of flack, but the show goes on



FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

Actually, I beat Stephen Fry to it. A month ago I fled this farm for a week in the Caribbean and, I am not afraid to admit, without so much as a backward glance. After three days away from the muddy ditches, stinking cattle yards and flooded meadows, the palm trees and white-sand beaches worked their magic. I scribbled a postcard to my neighbour, Farmer White, who was in charge of the farm. It said: "Have decided never to return. Please feed cows till further notice." I meant it, too.

I have some sympathy with Fry, for I, too, have to face critics. He may think his are cruel enough, but I bet mine are worse. At least he knows what his think about him. Mine just remain silent.

My critics turn up for a performance of ploughing, drilling, haymaking or harvesting and just lean over the gate, watching and remembering how much better they did it in their day. They may not say a word, but their verdict is written across their faces. On the few occasions when they do bother to speak, it may be some weeks before they get round to making an utterance. I remember last haymaking, when we had worked long hours under a baking sun to gather in a field of clover. We got to five o'clock and could not lift one more forkful. We called it a day. I bumped into an old boy a couple of days later who mumbled as we passed in the street: "I'd tave got that last bit in, if it tad been me." Meaning: you idle youngster, you are not half the farmer I was, and never will be. The old boys do not waste words where one crisp phrase will do the devastating job. It is enough to have anybody heading for the Ramsgate ferry.

But self-criticism is just as wounding. Having learnt what I know from the writings of some of the great farmers of the first half of this century, I set myself a high standard when I started this farming project, and regularly fail to live up to it. On a daily basis I am reminded of how many of the basic farming tasks I have so far failed to grasp. Certainly there have been successes, but these always seem to be eclipsed by niggling deficiencies, which cannot be ignored.

Take, for example, a simple job such as building a stack of bales of straw. This should be the easiest thing in the world. But I have tried it now for five successive seasons and have yet to achieve a lasting result. Perhaps it is because I never had Lego as a child.

We buy bales of straw after harvest every year, for we simply cannot grow enough straw for our own use, and we build a stack near the stockyard so that we do not have to haul it far in the winter. It is vital that the stack be solid and stable, otherwise successive gales of winter wind will demolish it, or cracks will appear between the bales, down which the rain will pour and ruin the straw.

After five years of trying I can still not do it. "You want to watch a bricklayer," is the only advice I have been given. I have scanned books and pamphlets, but without gathering any clues. I imagine the writers assume this to be a task so basic as to be hardly worth describing. Well, I wish someone would describe it to me. I can build the base, and the next layer, but by layer four or five, no matter how I place the bales, there is always a vertical gap running up through the stack, which eventually leads to instability. My stacks need no trumpeters to bring them tumbling down.

Consequently, we always start winter on a bad note, with a stack of damp straw with which to bed the animals. It is like offering them a damp sleeping-bag to crawl into, and not made any easier when the critics amble up the lane, muttering. It is all very public, too, open to as much scrutiny as any West End performance.

One year, I tried to build the stack in the barn, so that at least if it did fall apart it would not get soaked and ruined. I even got that wrong. I thought it would be in order for the bales to rest against the walls of the barn to keep the stack upright. No, the critics said; the stack had to be self-supporting or it was "no stack at all".

If I were an actor going back through the newspaper cuttings looking for a rave review, I could not find one; if this were a theatre and the management was looking for a quote to put up in lights — "this one will run and run" — they would be hard-pressed to find a couple of words of praise to stick together.

But I must not get downhearted. At least the livestock seem to enjoy the performance. I am sure that some of them would applaud if they could. The show must go on. Even when the bales of straw, and all the odds, seem to be stacking up against you.

Soft landing for chicks

Feather Report

MARY EVANS



The male eider duck

FOR people living in the south of England, the eider duck — or, as it is generally called, the eider — is an exotic bird. I still remember my first sight of one as a schoolboy — looking down from a cliff on the Mull of Kintyre, and seeing this gleaming white bird on the blue water far below.

In fact, the eider is the second commonest breeding duck in Britain, after the mallard. The coasts of Scotland and North-East England are home to about 30,000 pairs, and that is only a small proportion of the two million eiders that are scattered throughout the Arctic region. On the large pond in the middle of Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, they swim about like domestic duck. You might call the eider "the mallard of the north".

The drakes are brilliant white, with a black cap and black flanks. Just now they are displaying offshore to the females, crooning and throwing their heads back violently to show off their puffed-up white throats. The females are dull birds by comparison, brown mottled with black, but they are easily identified by the curious shape of the head — the forehead and beak plunge in a single straight line.

They sit on the rocks, and go out to feed on mussels and crabs when the tide is right. They start nesting in April, in the mouths of rabbit holes, or simply in clumps of sea campion or heather. Beneath the incubating female — who is well camouflaged by her plumage — lies a layer of eiderdown that she has plucked from her own underside.

This, of course, used to be collected to keep humans warm in bed. But now the nests are protected, and only the female and her eggs enjoy its benefits. The ducklings make little use of it, for they go down to the sea almost as soon as they are hatched. But they are clothed in their own warm coat of down.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — Watch out for sparrowhawks in "switchback" display flight. Twitchers — Hoopoe at Gomshall near Guildford, Surrey; Hume's leaf warbler at Hornsea, Humberside; Ross's gull roosting nightly at Seaforth, Merseyside. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.*

● *Robin Jacques is away.*

TONY WHITE



A hedging team in action at Patching. Led by Mr Tilley, villagers are giving their home a new lease of life now the long-awaited bypass is being built

A village reunited

A community long divided by a 'rat run' is at last rediscovering itself

"Sorry, no muddy boots", says a notice outside the Horse and Groom just above Patching village. This must be Canute country. A stone's throw away, banded by red and white bollards, and bogged down in the heaviest of clay, are JCBs and tractors engaged in the huge digging operation that is the A27 West Sussex Patching Junction Improvement Scheme.

Behind the mud pile that has been created, the 180 residents of Patching are busy preparing for the road scheme's completion this summer.

For years their lane has been used as a rat run for impatient travellers zipping between the A280 and the A27. The road scheme, first lobbied for in 1972, will divert that traffic, and the travel-worn lane will resume its rightful place in the heart of the Patching community.

"The lane," says Robin Tilley, a solicitor and clerk of Patching Parish Council, "is the only property common to everyone in the village. For years it has effectively been denied to us."

Since the problems with the lane, the village has been cut in two. Robin Tilley is at the head of a movement to heal the wound. With the opening of the by-pass there will be a street party. "Then," he says, "we are going to plant up the verges with wildflowers, and possibly plant mulberry trees on the traffic island we will have at the end of the lane.

"Up to now cars have been driving onto the verges to pass and the council has made the damage good with unsightly tarmac. We are going to replace that with grass. The lane has been flooded regularly. All the ditches and brooks need clearing out and deepening. The culverts are silted up and too small to clear out so we are putting in bigger ones."

Such talk might seem high-flown but Mr Tilley and Patching Parish Council have already put in place a village enhancement scheme in anticipation of the lane's new lease of life. Many villagers spend some of their weekends sprucing up the environment.

High on a long list of projects is putting back the hedges. Some were removed in the 1970s by farmers chasing EC grants. Others have been neglected because of a decline in the number of farm labourers. The parish council initially gave a £1,500 grant for chainsaws, bill hooks, axes, brush cutters, shovels and spades, and sponsored training days with the South of England Hedge Laying Society. Peter Footman, a local carpenter who is one of dozens of Patching hedgelayers, says: "The hedges are good for wildlife. They also stop snow drifting and act as windbreaks."

Peter Woodward, who earns a living making and repairing violins, violas and cellos, says the hedging has fostered camaraderie among the workers. "And, when the work is done, you can see it every day," he adds.

There is a Patching body of opinion that thinks hedging is up to the farmers. Mr Tilley disputes this. "It is," he says, "unrealistic and probably unfair to expect the farmers who have already been pushed and pulled in all sorts of directions by different policies suddenly to plant lots of hedges, which are of little use to them, when they do not have the labour force to look after them."

He believes that, as many of the villagers live in what were once agricultural labourers' cottages, they should take over some of their predecessors' roles. "It should be a partnership of parish and farm."

Mr Tilley has also organised the parishioners to conduct nocturnal moth and bat counts, set up bat boxes and to construct a dew pond on Patching Hill as a wildlife habitat. He has also commissioned a general habitat survey of the parish.

Twelve new stiles have been built by residents of Patching and of neighbouring Clapham. Also, over a weekend, 30 people were involved in resurfacing the road to the church. "Until then," Mr Tilley says, "vulnerable people in the community, the elderly, those in wheelchairs — and we have quite a few — and mothers with prams, were unable to gain access to the church."

Footpaths and bridleways have been cleared and, one day in 1993, four tractors and trailers were used to carry villagers taking part in the traditional ceremony of beating the parish bounds. Despite driving rain, fifty people stayed the three-hour course.

Rain also dominated the village barn dance. "It tipped down," recalls Mr Tilley, "and the roof leaks so there were buckets everywhere. The downpour brought everyone together: it added to the community spirit."

In 1992, the 2,091-acre historic village of Patching, along with Clapham, earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records with their world field-to-loaf record for producing a baker's dozen from standing corn in 12 minutes 11 seconds. "All cut," Mr Tilley says, "with vintage farm equipment." The loaf was microwaved.

Braced by this achievement, last year the parish compiled a report on its many environmental projects and entered for the Colonel Sanders Environmental Awards, which attracted 250 entries from councils, voluntary groups and schools around the country. Patching came third, pipped to the post only by Gwent County Council and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Future plans include coppicing the side of Patching pond and mending the village clock, the hands of which have been rusting at 6.30 for a decade now. "Ideally, we would like to put back the huge weights that used to run it, but the house the clock is on has been converted and won't carry them so he clock will have to be electrified," says Mr Tilley.

Meanwhile, he is composing a hedge-layers barn dance. "It will be a bit like Zorba the Greek," he says, "getting faster and faster."

JESSICA GORST-WILLIAMS

LADIES

CURVACEOUS petite dark-haired actress with style aged 30. Loves Puccini, Paris, Princesses and poultry fame. Seeks cosmopolitan charismatic and solvent man 50-65. London based.Reply to Box No 4070

DISCERNING attractive continental lady 58 WLTM sensitive refined professional man to enjoy urban life in London and possibly countryside. Photo please. Reply to Box No 4090

ELEGANT lady, n/s, 56, blue eyes, slim, attractive, GSOH, V.Interests, seeks prof. gentleman to share life. Please Reply to Box No 3666

ESSENTIALLY feminine female, slim, 5'4" - professional, alive & Cosmopolitan at heart seeks male counterpart 58+ Southwest or thereabouts. Photo app. Box No 4115

EUROPEAN/MIDDLE EASTERN Successful man 50+, London based sought by dark petite English lady, late 40's, many interests Box No 4020

EXPATRIATE English woman, dark haired, feminine and youthful, irreverent SOH, div., Univ. Ed., probably settling in York area (Undecided). Interest ranging from Mahler to Military History and Monty Python, would like to meet man (58-68) she can laugh with & share companionship and cuddles. Photo app. Box No 3715

FIVE foot two, eyes of blue, lady piano teacher, just 29, loves theatre, music- British comedy, animals and England. Seeks professional gentleman, n/s, D/S/H and a BMW!! Photo please Box No 3889

FIVE foot two, eyes of blue, lady piano teacher, just 29. Loves theatre, music, British comedy, animals and England. Seeks professional gentleman, n/s, D/S/H and a BMW!! Photo please Box No 3889

GREGARIOUS Gents required to join dinner party in the Cotswolds. Box No 3019

HAPPY, attractive, female Foreign affairs journalist, 29, confident man 40-55 to share life and laughter. I love the sea, countryside, travel, cinema, music, crazy cars and quiet times at home in London. And you?? Reply to Box No 4129

HAPPY friendly 52 lady wishes to meet gentleman who has a zest for life to comfortably challenging himself. Photo Please Reply to Box No 3906

HEADTURNING, independent & successful petite blonde (34) WLTM a handsome n/s & successful man. I have had the courage to seek, do you have the courage to reply? S.W. Please reply with photo. Please Reply to Box No 3885

JO is jaunty jovial slim attractive 40ish resides Suffolk. Loves country life and city pleasures. Seeks sensitive sentient soul vent honest male for fun and friendship. Photo please. Reply to Box No 4095

KATHARINE ALLEN, "The highly respected marriage bureaux" (The Independent). 18 Thayer St. London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

LADY 37 attractive slim brunette hazel eyes who isn't convinced that personal ads work WLTM an attractive down to earth man with a GSOH who can put some sparkle back into my life and show that not all men should come with a Government Health Warning attached! Photo essential. Kent/London area. Reply to Box No 4092

LADY, 56, central London, caring, homeloving, fortunately situated, would love to meet Gentleman, possibly ex-service, for friendship initially. Same public school/establishment background essential. Town or country Plse write Box No 4188

LIFE is for living sorry? Then read on. Tall, slim, attractive widow 58, professional in London would like to meet smart, N/S man 55-65 who enjoys life, inc. good food & wine, sport, arts, travel & conversation. For friendship initially & then lets see! Please Reply to Box No 3930

LONDON - French late forties - widow seeks gentleman 40/50 initially as social partner. Please Reply to Box No 3881

MEET attractive, sexy women at London singles' parties. MEET 'N' EAT 071 589 8634

PRETTY, blonde, slim, modern, articulate, widely travelled, well read, prof. lady (50) living in Hampshire. Solvent with own property, car etc. Two sons, both at University. Interested in meeting tall, happy, prof. man of similar age to make life bright and exciting again. Photo please.Reply Box No 3972

LIVELY well-travelled lady early 50's WLTM someone with GSOH. Ints. incl. antiques, country theatre & people. London or Surrey prof. Please Reply to Box No 3999

LIVELY, slim, attractive, intelligent Cambridge woman (52) enjoys travel, vocalising seeks similar professional man (62+) for loving, lasting relationship. Photo please.Box No 4038

NORTH-EAST based. Attractive petite Doctor 37. Articulate cultured and well-travelled. Standard GSOH. Many interests include theatre fine dining cinema and the outdoors. WLTM successful professional gentleman 35-47 who is slim intelligent, cultured and thoughtful for a lasting relationship. Photo please.Box No 3981

PERFECT MATCH. Female, 5'6", London, n/s attractive, slim, elegant, caring, intelligent, loves life, home, travelling, gardening, all cts, countryside, pets, etc. With my critique. Varied abilities I can help turn any humble abode into a glorious palace. Scientifically the perfect match to me is a male born in 1944/48/49/53 n/s attractive, intelligent, considered, adventurous, perceptive, GSOH, great inner strength and able to provide me with help, support, security, care, etc.Reply to Box No 4040

PRETTY Australian woman of Anglo-Celtic extraction, stranded in Antipodes, seeks rescue. England is calling. I am ravishingly 5'6", have large blue eyes, pale skin, dark hair, am university educated. I am honest, passionate and kind. I am '29, never married and seek wholesome man. 30's/40's, for marriage and to start a family. I am independent and fiercely loyal and seek one who's loving, monogamous and trusting. I enjoy tennis, walking in the country, literature, Irish mythology. If you think we have common ground let's Correspond. Address to: Antipodean P.O Box 283, Elsternwick Victoria 3185, Australia.

S PROFESSIONAL women (40+) invite interesting male guests (n/s) to private sunday lunch in country house near Selborne Hants in March. Tell us why you'd like to be there. Please Reply to Box No 4055

PROFESSIONAL 50yr old lady in Devon with happy personality enjoys theatre dining and gardening would like to share her time with like-minded gentleman.Reply Box No 4006

PROFESSIONAL 37 divorced no ties attractive GSOH outgoing lady WLTM professional male 35-45 to share the finer things in life. East Anglia. Please Reply to Box No 4053

REFINED, cultured lawyer, 45, slim 5'3", warm, vivacious and very attractive, seeks well-balance professional man of similar stamp with charm and sensitivity, 40-55, to share life's many pleasures. Photo app. London/SE. Please Reply to Box No 4111

ROMANTIC attractive professional woman many interests especially music and travel WLTM a man 50-65 for friendship, perhaps more. London/home counties. Please Reply to Box No 3943

ROUNDED, intelligent lady early 50's living in East Anglia seeking company of gentleman in whose company I can feel comfortable. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3918

SURREY/SUSSEX: 28in. blond, blue-eyed, n/s, independent widow 45, GSOH, warm, sensitive nature. Well-educated, interested in Literature, Theatre, Walking/Countryside, arts, Classical Music and Travel. Seeks kind gentleman 45-55, compatible interests, for companionship and possible long term relationship. Box No 4155

"SYMPATHIQUE" sincere tall prof. young 50 WLTM that special caring gentleman to share and cherish all the nicieties that togetherness can bring. Home counties/ London. Please Reply to Box No 3984

TALL brunette attractive 40's loves life, lots of T.L.C. to give WLTM cultured tall sincere gent. Where are you? based London.Reply to Box No 3745

TALL attractive country loving widow, 56, happy, caring, personality. Many interests. Seeks sincere gentleman to enjoy life's pleasure & quiet times with Wife/Class/S.W. Please Reply to Box No 3911

TALL, bright, blue eyed 27 year old with masses of long curly hair seeks tall, good looking, professional to Oxford based professional to make her smile. Please write to Box No 4165 enclosing a photo.

TYPICAL fun loving prof lady 5'8", 29yrs. Attractive equally happy in town & country. Tired of meeting knaves. Seeks attractive solvent knight to rescue her. Photo please. ALA. Please Reply to Box No 4106

VERY attractive slim feminine brunette, 31. Successful career. London based. Vivacious, fun-loving, enjoys living life to the full incl. skiing, water and adventure sports, champagne, parties, friends - still something is missing. Is it you? If you are dynamic, confident, successful and well-balanced please write to me at Box No 3971

VERY pretty 40 something seeks man with oomphi to write Cheryl Two of her life (Surrey or within easy-reach). Photo please. Box No 3964

VIVACIOUS, attractive, intelligent, stylish lady, 31, seeks sincere, amusing, fun-loving, professional gentleman, 30-40, to show her there is more to life than work. Enjoys theatre, music, travel, good food & wine. Photo appreciated. London reply. Box No 3924

W.MIDLANDS based? Enjoy theatre, cinema, eating out? Attractive, interesting lady seeks male companion to share a Rep experience for the season and perhaps much more Please Reply to Box No 4112

WOMAN (warm, attractive, intelligent, over-educated, professional, divorced, 40, eccentric CV, two student offspring and wide interests, including blues, rock, classical music, sport, thrillers & the outdoors) seeks man (decision-maker, light-hearted, over-35, eager to share his own enthusiasms with fun and friendship) to explore possibilities in London. Letter, phone no. & photo, please, to Box No 3926

YOUNG fit attractive 27yr old girl seeks similar partner prof. London based. If you are 28-35, single with a GSOH & enjoy having fun.Reply Box No 4091

GENTLEMEN

ADVENTUROUS Expat Naval Officer. Living/working in the sun. Uk Horse, Tall, slim, good looking, 40's. Loves sport/mountains. Seeks slim, pretty, outdoor girl. 25-40, N/S. Photo plse. Please Reply to Box No 4224

AMERICAN writer, 42, very bright, extremely fit, loves music, cinema, theatre, skiing, travel. Looks like Al Pacino and sounds like Woody Allen - or is it the reverse? Seeks n/s woman 21-35 to share above. If you're tired of millenia of the British male tradition, write with phone no and photo. You have nothing to lose but your ennui. Lndn/SE. Box No 4163

ARCHITECT 36 years old, of mixed race, originally from the Bahamas, handsome, 6'2, slender, sophisticated with a warm sensuality, very health conscious, has home in Florida and London. Relocating to Florida the end of 95. Seeks a very attractive professional female with warm personality and health conscious who likes the tropical climate for a serious relationship. Please send recent photo Thankyou. Box No 4098

ARE you an elegant, very attractive, stylish, slim, warm, demonstrative, balanced lady with brain & beauty up to 40yrs? I am a gentle, sensitive, tough but tender, British hospital specialist.I love art, antiques, exotic travel, theatre, music, fast sports cars. Looking for someone special for uncomplicated, equitable, close relationship based on mutual respect & love, for exciting weekends, holidays & more. Letter & photo please to Box No 4094

A tall dark and handsome elderly retired prof, widowed gentleman WLTM warm-hearted educated cultured distinguished elegant solvent n/s lady to share this life in a lasting relationship. All this and heaven too! London/Thames Valley Photo please Box 4089

ATTRACTIVE, affluent, Lettish, R.C.A. graduate seeks 30's female for painting trips, France.Reply to Box No 4009

ATTENTION LADIES Phone Haydyn Wellesley Singles for that special person. 0171 499 7544 Weekdays: 10.30am-7.30pm. Weekends: 0181 686 2967

CENTRAL Scotland. Tall, stocky, good-looking, professional 46 year old Scot - just returned after long exile - seeks intelligent attractive younger lady for lasting relationship. Please reply with photo to Box No 3934

GENTLEMEN

ATTRACTIVE, tall, dark, affluent Man. Dir., just 50, recently out of relationship. Loves sport, travel, sea & sun and all the good things in life, would like to hear from any attractive interesting women. Photo essential.Box No 3923

BEE - Derbyshire. Thank-you for letter and photo. Please send your tel no to Box no 3839

BE MINE this Spring. I am 6'2" professional, good looking will pass for 45. If you expect TOTAL care are 45-55 petite or trim n/s also enjoy country house antiques bridge and candle lit dinners do meet this unashamed romantic Capricorn in Yorkshire or Amersham Bucks. What's your sign? Photo app.Please Reply Box No 3722

BORED, but not boring, semi-retired company director, hedonist, bon vivieur etc. Patron of the Arts, definitly Sol Generis, seeks attractive vivacious intelligent and good figured female companion for shared interests. Age 30 to 40 years old. London South East Photographs essential. Please Reply to Box No 4056

CARING male 47, dark, ex prof. now postgrad. psy. student, seeks similar n/s sincere, elegant female 35-45. Wales. Photo app. Box No 3898

CHESHIRE based early 60's tall slim youthful successful professional gent enjoys many interests including golf would ideally like to meet an attractive elegant intelligent lady in her 40's to share some interests enjoy quality times together and to build a special relationship. Photo appreciated. ALA Please Reply to Box No 4102

DONCASTER or 30 miles radius - to complete and perfect the life of a 48 year old tall special financier. Wanted: slim very special lady around 35. Children no problem. Initially for romance - if suited?? Please Reply to Box No 3644

DO you enjoy lazy Sunday afternoons, log fires, the countryside, walking, good food and wine? Are you feminine, attractive, 26-36? A tall, slim prof. male (36) living in W. London, WLTM you. Box No 4114

DUTCHMAN, 34, 6ft 2in. dark hr, fit,computer. MBA, good looks, caring, sincere, fun-loving, S.E. seeks English/continental, charming, slim, attractive professional lady, 24-40 to give each other lasting love. Photo much apprec. Box No 4003

GENTLEMAN, 51, tall, divorced, educated public School and Oxbridge and of independent financial means, would like to meet his match! She will be about 40, thin, of similar background and live in or within reach of London. Tel. number please to Box No 4117

GENTLEMAN of means, integrity and maturity seeks lady of youth, beauty and gaiety. Offers stylish home and cultured lifestyle. Needs inspire. Box and love. Box No 3958

GENTLEMAN seeks lady to share social life in Cheshire n/s, GSOH, intelligent, fond of curry Reply to Box No 4119

GOOD looking man, 41, graduate, music lover, various cultural interests, seeks attractive, sensitive woman for warmth, tenderness and a long relationship. London Area. Reply to Box No 3824

GOOD-LOOKING man 27 intelligent 5'10" Mediation teacher seeks beautiful woman 28-46. London.Reply to Box No 3689

HAMILTONS CLUB (West Yorkshire) Newly opened, Sauna, Jacuzzi, Massage. Mon-Fri 10-10pm. 0274 743432

HELP! Save me from T.V. Saturday nights! Journalist, 43, sincere, affectionate, caring, seeks outgoing, natural, warm-hearted lady, n/s, 30s, with sense of humour, for fun - and perhaps more. Please Reply to Box No 4100

IF you are lively, attractive, female 21-33, a blonde blue-eyed man, 28, with GSOH would like to meet you central London Box No 3826

SOLVENT Lawyer sporty GSOH 38 seeks lively 38 slim younger lady Dorset. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3878

JE ne sai quoi. 6'4". 32, lean, post-grad, n/s, warm, attractive, optimistic professional man. Enjoys: excercise, outdoor life, travel, arts, laughing, discourse, Sunday mornings, Autumnal appies, kisses in the rain. Seeking, slim, sensual single, intelligent independent woman with that certain something! Photo appreciated, all letters answered. Derby area. Please Reply to Box No 3893

MANAGING DIRECTOR 39 very attractive, North West. WLTM, very attractive lady with style aged 25-40 for long-term relationship. Photographs please. Reply to Box No 4042

ME, 41, 5'11", good-looking, well travelled, solvent - own dream home. Loyal, sincere and honest. No ties. You, live N.Lndn/Hside, enjoy going out, 30-45, attractive, outgoing, caring, loving & wanting long term r'ship. Box No 3894

MG requires female passenger, 25-30ish, for owner. 1966 vintage, garaged in London, good runner, low mileage, reliable, but needing an going TLC Photo and offers to Box No 3825

NICE-LOOKING professional man, 6ft 4ins, 48, n/s, single, warm, relaxed and good humoured with lots to offer, seeks bright, slim, shapely young woman, 35-45, for permanent relationship N. London. Box No 4109

PROFESSIONAL, well travelled, 40, Egyptian, UK resident, seeks attractive, slim, lady, 25-40, for romance and LTR. Please Reply to Box No 4213

ROBIN HOOD (40, handsome) seeks Maid Marion (33-45, attractive). Sheriff's secret admirers also welcome! South.Reply to Box No 4077

REMARKABLE 43 good looking 5'7" own business athletic fit home in country seeks slim attractive lady 25-40 Cheshire. Photo assures reply.Box 4043

S.O.S. (Solitary of Somerset). 60, handsome, youthful, educated, fit, slim, active, sensitive and caring. GSOH/ N/S, seeks similar, warm, attractive lady to share concerts, theatre, arts, sport, walking, travelling, lively conversation and, of course, I.L.U. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3901

SEMI-RETIRED Cotsridge, n/s, Ex-company Director WLTM widow 60-65yr for pleasant future years & sharing in enjoyment of horticulture, travel & sport. Hopefully we could meet initially for lunch to arrange Aladdins cruise. Photo appreciated but not essential. Please Reply to Box No 4106

TALL attractive professional man youthful 60, sincere but lonely seeks very large lady any age for companionship in London area. Box No 3914

SOMEWHERE out there must be the lady I WLTM. I am a S.W. London widower, young 72, active, great affection and TLC. Wide interests but not bridge or golf. You must be late 50's/ early 60's, n/s, nice looking, open to true r'ship and accessible. Photo appreciated.Box No 3969

SUCCESSFUL semi-retired businessman single based French Riviera frequently visits UK seeks N/S female companion 20-35 for dining travel romance. Photo & phone no please to Box No 4053

TALL professional n/s male 34 enjoys walking talking sport and country pubs WLTM female attractive passionate sensual intelligent 20-40 for good times and laughter. Photo please.Midlands.Box No 4019

URBANE writer, graduate, warm witty & occasionally wise, now approaching his half-century, WLTM an attractive lady, n/s & under 45, of style and sincerity for tantalising times in London /Surrey/Berks. A recent photograph with your letter ensures a reply to Box No 4036

WIDOWER, highly eligible, presentable, young 65+, seeks rather shy Establishment girl 30's, n.s., for loving, happy, active family life in village. Be brave - nobody need know. Cautious telephoning first. Please Reply to Box No 4210

WELL travelled, good-looking male N.S. 36 seeks attractive fun-loving slim female 27-36 for friendship/romance Plse reply with Photo Box No 4116

WINE and dine with lovely ladies in salubrious surroundings. Box No 3019

WRITE to us. Tall fit educated professional 30's relocating to London one originally from the Levant the other India. WLTM 2 lovely ladies. Box No 4021

YOU have Style, Intelligence, Elegance & Sensuality and are equally at home at the opera or in wellies. Professional man based London & Devon, aged 46, tall etc seeks absolutely superb lady to share London evenings, glorious countryside, travel & life. Photo Please. Reply to Box No 3899

25YR old gay man working in the media. Fit good looking, blue eyed into music, the theatre and life seeks similar. Plse send photo & reply to Box No 4126

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Nina Campbell

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FULHAM SW6. 3 bed split level flat, roof terr. Total refurb. £139,950. Tel 081 742 7775

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HAMPSTEAD 65ft. Stunning interior designed 3 bed flat. Lrge. balcony. Italian kit, bath. sep wc, p.b blt. Gge space. Long lse. low serve chrs £250,000 inc complete contents Mrs Law 071 722 8848

MAIDA VALE W9 lovely 2 bed 2 bath flat + priv patio £178,000 Sandfords 071 723 9988

MAIDA VALE Unique one bedroom maisonette in excellent order forming part of converted Church. £99,950. Cass & Co 0171 286 5757.

REGENTS PK NW1 lge 1 bed apt. The Park must be sold £96,950 Sandfords 071 723 9988

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W12. Three bed Edwardian house with double reception & many original features incl fireplaces & stripped floors. £119,950 F/H. Halifax Property Services 081-740 6261

W12 - 3 bed, 3 recep Vic house on 3 firs. orig. features abound & has large garden to rear. £169,950 F/H. Halifax Property Services 081-740 6261

W12 Bright 2 bed split level mais. on first flr. own gdn. Bay front Vic in conservation area. £114,000 L/hold. Halifax Property Services 081-740 6261

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Bright 1st flr 1 bed p/b flat. Fitted wardrobes, carpets, interior designed inge. Leafy outlook, low outgoings, long lse, 2 mins from tube.
£63,000
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Pretty well proportioned one bedroom flat, light aspect, well decorated, in quiet residential road in sought after location. Long lease, low outgoings, private sale
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3 storey unmodernised labour saving Victorian house. Very quiet tree lined street near St. John's Churchyard. GCH, dble glazing, superb kitchen, utility rm., 2/3 bedrms. Suit non gardening City professional. Close to all amenities. Parking. 20 mins City.
£107,000.
081 985 1460

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E. SHEEN Parkside. 3 bed. 2 recep, conservatory semi det. house. kitchen/bkfast rm, 60 ft garden, garage. FHLD. £250,000. 081 876 6149.

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Elegant victorian detached with adjoining cottage. House 4 bed, 2 bath (1 ensuite), 2 sep WC, 2 drawing, study, dining. Patio Rose kitchen, lge conserv., games, laundry, lge enclsd gdn. Cottage living kitchen, 2 beds, bath, patio/gdn, O/S, 3 cars. Ideal part working from home. £475,000. F/Hold. Tel 0171 622 2221

WANTED

Wandsworth/ Clapham Common area

Private buyer (no chain) requires 4 bed, 2 bath house in need of renovation.
0580 753122 anytime.

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WEST END Phone for list of 95 flats £70,000 - £1.5m & 22 houses £197,000 - £980,000. J Saltway & Co 071 258 0800

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Delightful pied a terre in imposing historic building, 999 year lease plus share of freehold. Peppercorn ground rent.
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£275,000
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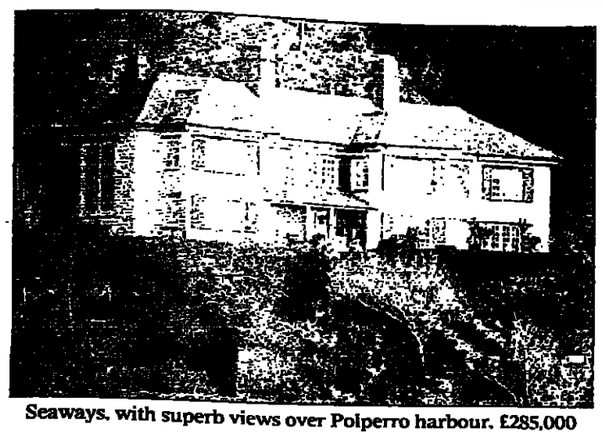
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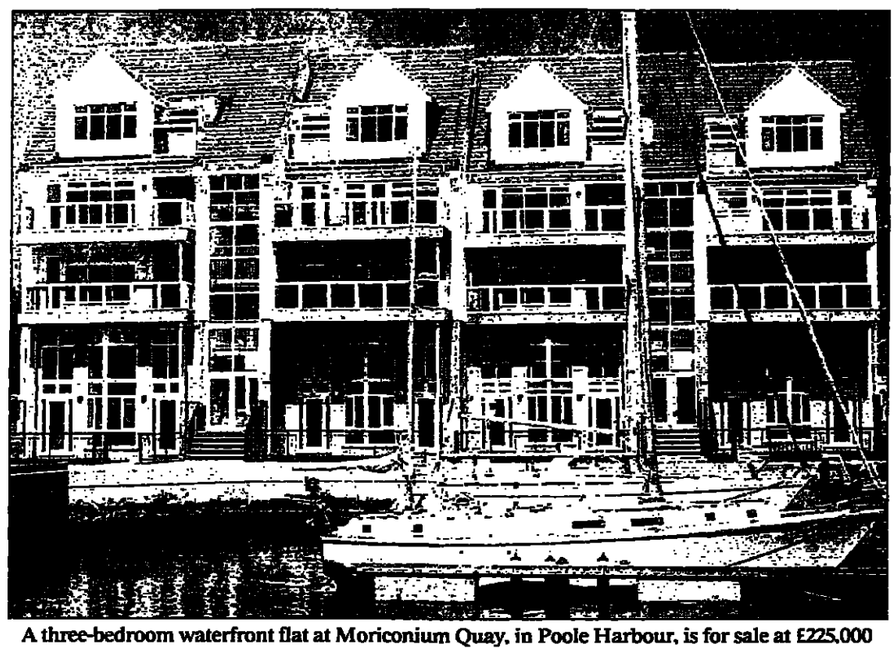
GREEN END GARDENS BO

The flood alerts across Europe have not diminished the attraction of homes close to water



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Splash out on a view



A three-bedroom waterfront flat at Moriconium Quay, in Poole Harbour, is for sale at £225,000

The most cherished of all views is that over water — be it river, lake, sea or old mill stream. One thing is certain, however: waterfront homes do not come cheap. Most estate agents agree that houses with a waterside view will sell more quickly and fetch higher than average prices, despite the fact that a large part of Europe has recently been on flood alert.

The mere glimpse of river, lake or sea will add between 15 and 25 per cent to average prices in most parts of Britain. Homes on the waterfront will cost between 30 and 50 per cent more; a private berth at the bottom of the garden puts a further 15 per cent on the value.

According to Robert Theobald, director of Fulfords' Waterside Homes, waterfront homes are in strong demand. "Our customers come from every age group, looking to buy second homes often with a view to permanent residence. Most own boats; some simply like living alongside them. The risk of flooding does not seem to deter them."

It is possible to allow for flooding in the design of a property. Floors should be tiled or slated, with no timber skirting boards. There should be minimal furnishings which can easily be removed to first floor level. Houses with cellars can be fitted with automatic pumps. Some waterfront homes have their own flood defences and can be surrounded with substantial walls or mounds. Driveways need to be raised, and provision made to stop the contents of drains flowing the wrong way.

Seaside homes are a more expensive maintenance proposition. Because of the salt spray, the outside of the house will need repainting at least every two years, instead of the normal six or seven.

As far as riverside properties are concerned, it is important to check their position with regard to the sun, says Jeremy Miller, of the West Country agents Millerson: "Often one side of a river has ample sunshine, while the other bank has more than its fair share of shade.

"Boating enthusiasts will also be concerned about the depth and amount of high water within the estuary. Some parts of a river are either very shallow or have little time, either side of high tide, for any access to boats."

In the yachting mecca of Dartmouth, homes for sale fronting the river Dart are as common as unicorns. A substantial Victorian family house, set back from the waterfront, with four bedrooms, three reception rooms and views over the Dart Estuary to the sea, has recently come on the market at £275,000, through Fulfords' Dartmouth office (01395 222723).

Those wanting a property with a mooring might be interested in "Fairhaven" at Tacketwood, near Kingsbridge, in Devon. On sale at £215,000 through Fulfords, the detached four-bedroom bungalow has a 60ft frontage to the Kingsbridge estuary, and a mooring at the bottom of the garden.

In Dorset, boat lovers are paying up to £225,000 for a three-bedroom waterfront flat at Moriconium Quay, Poole Harbour's new marina village development. An 8-metre deep-water berth at the back door costs another £19,500. The selling agent is Savills (01202 887331).

If you prefer fishing to boating, The Old Mill at Ramsbury in Wiltshire, on offer at £750,000 through Knight, Frank & Rutley in Hungerford (01488 682726), might appeal. The six-bedroom Grade II listed house, in 16½ acres of riverside gardens and water meadows, has two thirds of a mile of trout fishing on the river Kennet.

A beautifully situated riverside country house, near the village of Coalport in Shropshire, is on offer at £425,000 through Savills in Banbury (01295 263535). The seven-bedroom Sweyney Cliff House, built on the site of the famous Swinney Mill, is set in 7½ acres of water gardens, cliffs and wooded grounds, overlooking a gorge on the banks of the river Severn.



Sweyney Cliff House, £425,000

Alternatively, for sea views, a house with a superb outlook over Polperro harbour entrance and the Cornish coastline beyond can be yours for £285,000, through Millerson in Liskeard (01579 344401). "Seaways", which is surrounded by National Trust land, has five bedrooms, three bathrooms and three reception rooms, and comes with terraced south-facing gardens.

In London's Docklands, waterfront homes carry premiums ranging from 20 per cent on the Isle of Dogs to as much as 35 per cent for a view of Tower Bridge.

According to Rick Folkes, of Chestertons Residential's Tower Bridge office (0171-357 7999), a river view adds drama to a property. "Hong Kong investors are particularly aware of the value of water," he says. Chestertons is seeking offers in the region of £500,000 for a 120-year lease on a three-bedroom penthouse at President's Quay, St Katharine's Way, which has a terrace overlooking the Thames and Tower Bridge.

On the other side of the Thames, a lower floor split-level two bedroomed apartment at The Anchor Brewhouse, where the river laps just 12 inches below the window sills, has recently sold for the asking price of £349,000 through Carleton Smith of Wapping. The property has a 116-year lease.

CHERYL TAYLOR

Be prepared if the worst happens

The Association of British Insurers advises homeowners to take the following precautions to minimise possible damage if there is an imminent danger of flooding:

☐ Move whatever furniture and other belongings you can upstairs, including food, warm clothing, drinking water, battery radio and torch. Put sandbags against doorways and air bricks.

☐ Turn off electricity at the main fuse box. Keep buildings and contents insurance policies to hand. Make sure you know who to contact should you need to make a claim and keep details of emergency helpline numbers.

☐ If flood damage occurs, you should arrange for temporary repairs to prevent any further damage. For example, placing plastic sheeting or tarpaulin over storm damaged roofs to stop further rain getting in. Contact your insurers as soon as possible.

☐ Keep receipts for any work carried out as these will normally form part of your claim. Some insurers provide an emergency helpline service, this will help you to find a tradesman to carry out repairs. It is important to keep damaged items, the insurance company may want to see them.

☐ Flood water can make buildings unsafe. Doors and windows may swell and floors may bulge. To get in, you will cause less damage by forcing windows rather than doors.

☐ When the water recedes, remove floor coverings and wash walls and floors in disinfectant solution. It is important to get warm air circulating. Leave windows, doors and built-in cupboards open for moist air to escape. Keep rooms heated.

☐ Lift one or two floorboards to increase under-floor draughts. Pull furniture away from walls. Oil hinges and locks to prevent them seizing.

☐ Wait at least six months before laying carpets or floor covering, even though the floorboards may look and feel dry earlier. Check under floorboards after six and twelve months for signs of dry rot. If you find any, get expert advice.

Damage to buildings and contents by flood is an insured risk, covered in nearly all insurance policies, including waterfront homes. However, some buildings policies carry an excess, which means you pay up to £100 of any claim. If the risk of flood is considered high, the excess may be £1,000 or more, and the premium will be higher.

Your home should be insured for the full rebuilding cost, not its market value, which includes the cost of the land. Rebuilding costs will include permanent fittings such as central heating and additional fees such as demolition costs. Most insurers offer index-linked policies so that the sum insured goes up in line with rebuilding costs.

If your contents policy is on a "new for old" basis you will be paid the full cost of repairing damaged items, or replacing them at current prices (although this may not apply to clothing). Others give basic "indemnity" cover, which means an amount will be deducted for wear and tear. Most insurance companies will require purchase receipts for goods claimed, and professional valuations for items such as jewellery.



A bad sign for home owners

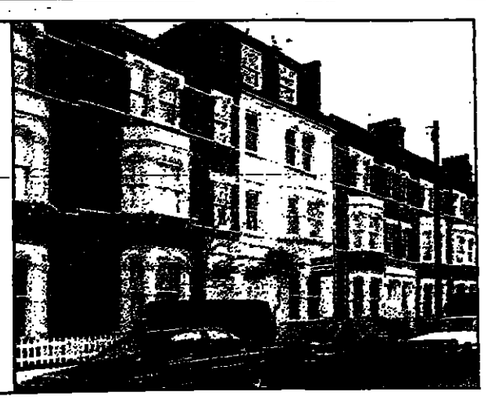
Don't risk being under-insured. Your contents sum should be sufficient to enable you to replace all your possessions if they are destroyed. If you do not have adequate cover the insurance company can refuse your claim.

ROSENAU RD, SW11

Close to Battersea Park and Albert Bridge, a Victorian terraced house with generous, flexible accommodation. 6/7 beds, 3 baths, 2/3 receps, kit, pretty 30ft garden.

Freehold £285,000

BATTERSEA: 0171-228 0174



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HAMPSHIRE Crondall

A charming listed cottage with a lovely garden backing onto open farmland. 3 beds, bath, recep hall, drawing rm, kit, utility rm, clkrm, integral garage & secluded garden.

Price Guide: £205,000

FARNHAM: 01252 737115



COALECROFT RD, SW15

A bright, well presented Victorian house in a sought-after conservation area in West Putney. 3 beds, bath, 22ft drawing rm, conservatory/dining rm, kit/b'fast rm, clkrm, pretty west-facing garden.

Freehold £305,000

WIMBLEDON: 0181-944 7172



EATON SQUARE, SW1 £975,000

On the North side of the square, an imposing ground floor flat of approx 2,100 sq. ft. (196 sq. m.). Principal bed with bath, bed 2 with shower rm, 2 receptions, study area, clkrm, kit/b'fast rm, private entrance, use of square gardens, caretaker. Lease expires 2014.

BELGRAVIA: 0171-730 9854

HAMPSHIRE Winchester

In the sought-after area of St Cross, a well decorated, mellow house. 5 beds, dressing rm, 2 baths, 2 shower rms, 2 receps, b'fast rm, conservatory/dining rm, kit, cellar, parking, walled gardens.

Price Guide: £265,000

WINCHESTER: 01962 863131



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BERKSHIRE Marsh Benham

In a charming hamlet near Newbury, an attractive conversion of two early Victorian Estate cottages with distant views. 5 beds, 3 baths, 2 receps, study/library, kit/b'fast rm, clkrm, utility rm, garage, gardens.

Price Guide: £335,000

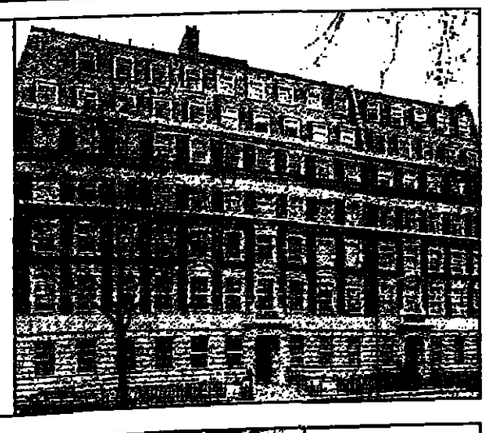
NEWBURY: 01635 523225

GROSVENOR SQ, W1

Directly overlooking the square, a raised ground floor flat with high ceilings and grand rooms, needing refurbishment. Could provide (subject to consent): 4 beds, 3 baths, 2 receps, kit

Lease expires 2055 £850,000

MAYFAIR: 0171-408 0055



RENTALS

FLOOD STREET, SW3 £1,500 p.w.

A spacious, modern house in excellent order. 4/5 double beds, 4 en suite baths, shower rm, 2/3 receps, kit, garden, garage, parking. Furnished/Unfurnished

ELYSTAN PLACE, SW3 £550 p.w.

A lovely, low-built house, well decorated with a double reception rm. 2 double beds, marble bathrm, en suite shower rm, clkrm, double recep, kit. Furnished

CENTRAL LONDON: 0171-491 4311

PRINCE ALBERT RD, NW8 £900 p.w.

A newly refurbished apartment with new bathrms & kitchen and views of Regents Park from the reception rm. 3 beds, 3 baths, recep, kit, utility rm. Furnished

CHESTER GATE, NW1 £1,000 p.w.

A ground floor maisonette in a Nash building opposite Regents Park with a private patio, parking & porter. 3 beds, 2 baths, 2 receps, kit. Furnished

NORTH LONDON: 0171-722 3336

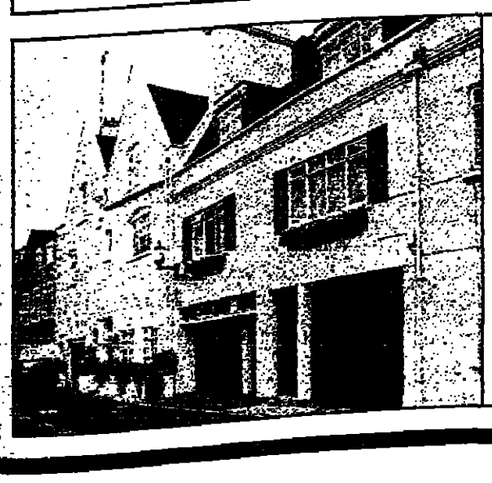
OLD PARK AVENUE, SW12 £650 p.w.

An elegant period house within easy access of Wandsworth Common and Clapham Tube. 5 double beds, 3 baths, 3 receps, kit. Unfurnished

ETHELBERT ROAD, SW20 £276 p.w.

A well presented house with principal bed & en suite bath, 2 further beds & family bath, 2 receps, L-shaped kit, secluded rear garden. Furnished

WIMBLEDON & SURREY: 0181-946 9447



CLABON MEWS, SW1

In a quiet mews off Cadogan Square and within walking distance of Sloane Square, a beautifully presented house, modernised & fitted to a high standard. 2 beds, 2 baths, 27ft recep, kit/b'fast rm, garage.

Lease expires 2022 £395,000

CHELSEA: 0171-352 1484

OXFORDSHIRE Long Wittenham

A spacious late Victorian house in a delightful Thames-side village near Didcot. 5 beds, bath, shower rm, 2 receps, study, kit/b'fast rm, garden rm, clkrm, garage, garden.

Price Guide: £325,000

OXFORD: 01865 311522



NEW IN PAPERBACK

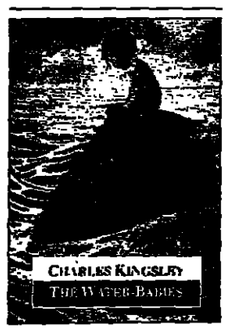


Roald Dahl: complex and courageous

■ ROALD DAHL
By Jeremy Treglown
Faber, £6.99
When Dahl's baby son Theo suffered brain damage, one of Dahl's responses was to invent a better kind of valve to drain the fluid from his brain. This controlling energy was typical of him, and it saw him through other family tragedies, including the stroke that his wife, Patricia Neal, suffered at the height of her film career. But it made him hard to live with, and in spite of his charisma and his success, his life was scattered with fractured relationships. Treglown's even-handed biography gives a fascinating account of this complex and courageous character.

■ THE HIPPOPOTAMUS
By Stephen Fry
Arrow, £5.99
Is the troubled Fry right when he complains that he is spreading himself thinly across too many disciplines? Certainly he writes wittily and has a subject — the infidelities of the inheritance classes — but, in truth, he is still to find his fictional voice. Wallace is a struggling hack and failed poet. Intrigued by miracles happening at a friend's country mansion, he goes to investigate, only to find himself the unwitting protector of an adolescent, whose beauty and healing powers make him the object of desire for men, women and . . . horses.

■ ISOLINA
By Dacia Maraini
The Women's Press, £6.99
When the dismembered body of a young woman was washed up on the banks of the Tiber in January 1990, it was quickly established that the victim was 19-year-old Isolina Canuti. But no one was tried for her murder because the authorities refused to press charges against the most likely suspects. Prize-winning Italian writer Dacia Maraini turns detective in this carefully researched reconstruction of the case which exposes a self-protecting establishment at its most corrupt and hypocritical.



■ THE WATER-BABIES
By Charles Kingsley
Edited by Brian Alderson
OUP World's Classics, £4.99
Its reputation as a children's classic belies the fact that *The Water-Babies* is a difficult book. The little chimney sweep's fantastic underwater adventures are interrupted by long philosophical asides beyond the comprehension of most adults, let alone the "dear little man" to whom the book is addressed. In this new edition Alderson explains the many obscure references that pepper the narrative, and explores the 19th-century passions and obsessions that led Kingsley to write this mysterious, enchanting tale.

● *Hazel Leslie, Jason Cowley, Nicki Household*

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Let's review the facts

There is no basis to the book-trade's sour whinges about the press



DANIEL JOHNSON

Why do serious newspapers such as The Times devote so much space to books? Not for the sake of writers, still less the book trade, but because books matter to our readers. In an average year, several thousand new books will be mentioned or reviewed in The Times, some of them at great length. It is a service that must be worth untold millions a year to publishers and booksellers. These free advertisements we call reviews are one of the reasons why publishers rarely bother to advertise their books in the press. Books are practically the only commercial products which regularly receive such privileged treatment.

And yet, the press gets no thanks from the book trade. In The Bookseller last week, newspapers were excoriated for devoting too little space to book-reviewing. The excuse was the impending departure of the literary editor of The Sunday Times, Harry Ritchie, though there is no suggestion that he left because his space had been or might be reduced. The report then mentioned a couple of unrelated resignations of literary editors — Richard Gott's from The Guardian and Robert Winder's from The Independent — and concluded: "Once one of the most prestigious and sought after jobs in Fleet Street, the role of literary editor is fast becoming one of the least desirable."

This is a non sequitur. Some literary editors of the older generation occupied their chairs for more than a decade: for instance, the late Terry Kilmartin, W. L. Webb, David Holloway, Derwent May, Philip Howard. Whether or not such long tenures were necessarily desirable, it is meaningless to compare the old Fleet Street with the new: since the mid-1980s, journalists have tended to change jobs more often, because editors prefer it and also because there have been more opportunities to do so. This has nothing to do with the prestige or desirability of posts such as that of literary editor.

"The current upheaval seems to reflect the poor light in which books are held by the current generation of newspaper editors and their masters," The Bookseller continues. It does nothing of the kind. The space available for book reviews fluctuates, as it does for every other part of a modern paper: the Saturday Times has indeed reduced its coverage to one page, but this is a temporary measure, and the normal two pages will resume on March 18.

Just as more books are written than ever before, so they are more written about. With important works, this often extends far beyond the books pages. Simon Schama's Landscape and Memory, published in April, might be the occasion for debate on the comment and leader pages of The Times, for an interview and for a Times lecture — quite apart from a substantial review.

How does this compare with the past? Before 1939, The Times gave at most a column a week to books. During the paper shortage which lasted through the war and long after, books were scarcely reviewed at all. Under Sir William Haley, there was some improvement, but only in 1967, under William (now Lord) Rees-Mogg, was a literary editor appointed and a weekly books page instituted. Now The Times has four books pages a week.

So much for quantity. As for quality: on the Thursday books pages last month and this, readers have been able to sample extracts from past reviews of famous novels. Comparisons are tricky — stylistic conventions have changed so much — but it seems to me that reviews in The Times today are on the whole better written than they were. In literary journalism this is, if not the best of times, certainly not the worst.

In the light of the dying

Ginny Dougary is moved by a brave account of a mother's death

■ ONE TRUE THING
By Anna Quindlen
Chatto and Windus, £9.99

ANNA Quindlen is a big name in America. Her column in the New York Times has been syndicated, published in book form, and honoured in 1992 with a Pulitzer Prize.

She is also a bestselling novelist. One True Thing, Quindlen's second work of fiction, can be read as a natural progression for a journalist whose self-avowed strength is in humanising the big issues of the day. In this



Quindlen: unflinching gaze

case, it is the all-too-human issue of euthanasia.

Ellen Gulden, the heroine, is a 24-year-old magazine journalist who reluctantly leaves her Manhattan life to nurse her mother, Kate, who is dying of cancer. When Quindlen was 19, she left college to nurse her mother who was dying of cancer. So it is tempting to read the novel — in terms of its emotional veracity, at least — as autobiography.

Euthanasia is the issue, but the real drama (as opposed to the courtroom drama of Ellen's trial, which is tacked on to the end) lies in the slow-dawning discovery that it is her mother — not her academic, rakish father, George, whom she has idolised and been shaped by — who is the "one true thing" in her life.

Quindlen, the journalist, has been described as "timidly girlish". There is nothing timid or girlish about Quindlen the novelist. Her tone is unremittingly unsentimental. The emotion is so pared back, one could miss it altogether. Her gaze is unflinching but never clinical, as she itemises the mother's physical decay — her slack skin "like soft fruit when it's past its prime", "the yawning Os of the eye sockets", her pubic hair all but gone.

But it is the small-canvas details which are as striking as the visceral moments in between — the descriptions of Langhorne, the college town to which Ellen has returned, with its absurd but comforting olde-worlde traditions: the decorating of the Christmas trees by its womenfolk, the "Minies", and Ellen's mother's raging fury at her fading membership of their circle.

This is a brave and beautiful book. On every page, there is a phrase which describes a look or a smile or a feeling that is so telling, and so true, it catches your throat. I only wish that Quindlen had been courageous enough to finish her book a hundred pages earlier, with the natural ending of her mother's death.



Zissou and the ghost (1905): an early experiment in double exposure from *Jacques-Henri Lartigue, Boy with a Camera* by John Cech (Pavilion Books, £9.99), an introduction for young readers to the work of the influential French photographer

Anne Redmon traces all the Byzantine intricacies of internecine strife

The mother of a family feud

■ THE JUDGEMENT OF SOLOMON
By Anne Redmon
Sinclair Stevenson, £9.99

ONE finishes Anne Redmon's novel, the second in a trilogy, with the feeling not only that one would like to have read the first volume, but that the third will be something to look forward to.

Like her literary precursors, Olivia Manning and Lawrence Durrell — both of whom also set their three and four-decker novels against the backdrop of the former Byzantine empire — Redmon has a large cast of characters to manage. She does so without losing either the narrative pace or the reader's interest in the central theme — which, as the title suggests, is the nature of maternal love.

The story begins with a portrayal of two unhappy marriages. The first is that of Catherine and Theo Phocas, a wealthy but childless couple who live with their adopted daughter, Xenia, on the Greek island of Chios; the second is that of Catherine's brother, Charles Simon, and his American wife, Rosamund, who have discovered — after 25 years of marriage and five children — that they no longer love one another. As the novel opens, Charles is on the point of leaving his wife for another woman.

This volatile situation becomes even more so with the arrival of Missy Kavanagh, Rosamund's sexy but unscrupulous cousin from America, after an absence of almost 20 years. Missy tells Rosamund that Xenia is actually her child — conceived during an adulterous fling with Theo 18 years before. She is on her way to Greece to reassert her maternal claim over Xenia, as a way of avenging herself on her former lover.

What follows is an intricately-plotted drama of divided loyalties, in which the tension is sustained until the very end. Redmon is particularly good on the internecine conflicts of family life, and there are some enjoyable set-pieces, including the awful Christmas party at which Missy first sets her sights on Theo, and the no less electrifying scene, 20 years on, when Catherine finally confronts her errant husband with her knowledge of his guilt.

With its exotic setting and its cast of aristocratic Anglo-Catholics and eccentric millionaires, Redmon's novel has more than a touch of the popular romance about it. What sets it apart from genre fiction is the quality of the writing, and the subtlety the author brings to her reworking of a universal story.

CHRISTINA KONING

Sex and drugs and the critic caught

■ A CROOKED MAN
By Christopher Lehmann-Haupt
Little, Brown, £15.99

■ JUST WHEN WE ARE SAFEST
By Reg Gadney
Faber, £14.99

UNDOUBTEDLY the hardest thing for a good critic to guarantee is a good review for his own book. Christopher Lehmann-Haupt has made a reputation on the New York Times for handing out tough notices so it is unsurprising that he says the typical response to his decision to write a thriller was: "Are you going to publish it under your own name?" Well, he has done just that and I would like to know if he is regretting it.

A Crooked Man is a perfectly competent thriller about skulduggery in the corridors of power in Washington, coupled with some tendentious views on drug legislation reform and impressive detail about fly-fishing.

Unfortunately, competence is as far as it goes. Particularly towards the end of the book, as it moves towards a cliffhanger climax, the tension builds relentlessly. By then, however, the "whodunit?" issue has been resolved, which is just as well because I had guessed the answer within the first 50 pages.

The book is also an implicit argument for the decriminalisation of drugs as a means of killing off both the organised crime syndicates and drug-related robberies by junkies. I fear Lehmann-Haupt's suggestion of a loophole for passing the legislation, however, may be as naive as the character of his amiable, inefficient senator hero, who is more than ready to believe the Mafia are really nice guys.

By contrast, Reg Gadney's new novel, *Just When We Are Safest*, features almost no nice guys at all. This is a strange tale of multiple double-dealing within the ranks of the IRA, MI5, the Metropolitan Police, Special Branch and Customs and Excise. That's right, all of them. And what most of it seems to come down to is sex: lesbian sex, sado-masochistic sex and a bit of old-fashioned straight sex. That said, there is more violence in the book than sex.

Gadney's contorted plot reduces anti-terrorist strategy and inter-service rivalry to steamy personal relationships, which may not be that far from the truth. I enjoyed the cameo of John Major in the unnamed Prime Minister who "looks larger than he appears on television" and says "wunt" instead of "want". But the denouement in MI5's new Thames-side headquarters is less apocalyptic than we are led to anticipate.

The book's payoff, however, redeems its flaws, even if it does take us back to the basic instinct.

PETER MILLAR

Smoke without fire

■ CIGARETTES ARE SUBLIME
By Richard Klein
Picador, £5.99

I LOVE this book because I love smoking, and this book is a celebration, as well as a history, of smoking. Richard Klein looks at cigarette smoking from every conceivable angle, from tip to filter, packet to butt. He examines the history, the economics, the significant culture of cigarettes, and the cultural significance of cigarettes. He sees them for what they are, a "negative pleasure", a "crucial integer of our modernity", a rich, complex subject.

I love this book because for all of my smoking life I have been made to feel bad about smoking, made to feel that my continued smoking resulted from a terrible weakness of will and that therefore it was uninteresting, made to feel that there was only one stark, medical issue involved in smoking — how to give it up. This book reignites a smouldering belief I have long held, but which has lain buried under the cold ash of disapproval, that there was a lot more to it than that.

I love this book because it is not a saloon-bar rant about how cigarettes are really good for you, because, you know, my grandad smoked 80 Woodbines a day and lived to be 100, etc. Klein accepts without hesitation that cigarettes are bad for your physical health and shorten countless lives.

I love this book because Klein, in language a lot better than phrases such as "crucial integer" imply, bothers to try to answer the question: why? Why, as fully cognisant adults, do we keep going? What is it about human nature that keeps us in love with something that is destroying us? That is a question which all the stop-smoking gurus fail to address, which all the anti-advertising, anti-tobacco campaigning ignores, which all the pious non-smokers — each, no doubt, battling unsuccessfully with his own addictions — prefer not to explore.

And finally, I love this book because, heroically, Klein has now renounced the pleasure he loves, not through some iron act of will, but as a direct result of coming fully to understand it in all its tragic glory. His method might be a lesson to us all.

ROBERT CRAMPTON



The smoker's smoker: Bogart in *The Maltese Falcon*

As violent as the next man

■ THE VIOLENCE OF OUR LIVES: interviews with life-sentence prisoners in America
By Tony Parker
HarperCollins, £18

THE opening paragraph of any review of a book by Tony Parker almost writes itself. There must be at least a sentence on his skilful and distinctive editing of the tape-recorded interviews, a couple of remarks about his constant readiness to respect the integrity of other people's lives, and a few phrases about his inimitable capacity to combine compassion with objectivity. These qualities are as evident in this collection of interviews with American life-sentence prisoners as they were 30 years ago in his gentle questioning of the professional criminal "Robert Allerton" in *The Courage of His Convictions*.

But such universal respect for Parker's anthropological sensitivity can occasionally obscure the way in which his books are powerful arguments against many of the beliefs about human motivation so insistently peddled by political and academic experts. In the very month in which biologists and psychologists have been openly discussing the possibility of a genetic contribution to violence, Parker arrives on the scene with 18 accounts of violence that are utterly incompatible with any view of it as a single phenomenon. There is not much more in common between the violence perpetrated by Hank Sullivan ("All of my killings, they've had a purpose. I'm a professional criminal") and domestic murderer Carrie Hammick ("If he'd just backed off, he'd still have been alive today") than there is between the passivity of Mahatma Gandhi and Rip Van Winkle.

Neither will Parker's interviewees fit comfortably into any of the routine theories about the role of childhood abuse or drugs or bad companions in later criminality. Several still find what they did inexplicable, some still search for rationalisations, others take complete responsibility for the destruction and misery they set loose upon the world. This does not merely remind us of the motivational affinity between their lives and our own, it makes (and remakes) the tough political point that our search for a single way of controlling violent crime is every bit as ridiculous as our hunt for its unitary origin.

LAURIE TAYLOR

The Times/Dillons Bestsellers

HARDBACK

			Last week	No. weeks
1	THE PRIVATE LIFE OF PLANTS **David Attenborough** *(BBC)*	£17.99	1	6
2	SOPHIE'S WORLD **Jostein Gaarder** *(Phoenix)*	£16.99	2	5
3	THE STATE WE'RE IN **Will Hutton** *(Cape)*	£16.99	8	3
4	FREE TO TRADE **Michael Ridpath** *(Heinemann)*	£10	3	4
5	GEOFF HAMILTON'S COTTAGE GARDENS **Geoff Hamilton** *(BBC)*	£18.99	4	5
6	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	5	16
7	THE FINAL CUT **Michael Dobbs** *(HarperCollins)*	£14.99	6	3
8	WINGS **Danielle Steel** *(Bantam)*	£15.99	9	2
9	THE CRUSADES **Terry Jones** *(BBC)*	£17.99	7	5
10	LONG WALK TO FREEDOM **Nelson Mandela** *(Little Brown)*	£20	10	8

PAPERBACK

1	FIST OF GOD **Frederick Forsyth** *(Corgi)*	£5.99	1	3
2	MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW **Peter Hoeg** *(Flamingo)*	£5.99	3	16
3	INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE **Anne Rice** *(Warner)*	£4.99	2	6
4	AN IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE **Mary Wesley** *(Black Swan)*	£5.99	4	6
5	CHAOS AND DISORDER **Stephen Donaldson** *(HarperCollins)*	£5.99	0	1
6	DISCLOSURE **Michael Crichton** *(Arrow)*	£5.99	0	12
7	THE VAMPIRE LESTAT **Anne Rice** *(Futura)*	£5.99	5	3
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Exhibition of elegance

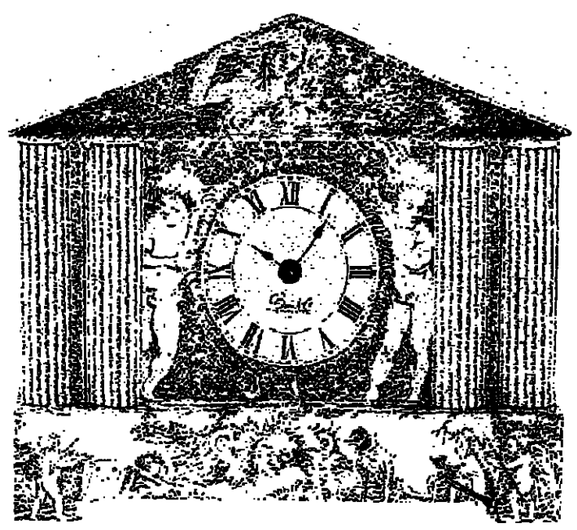


SITTING discreetly between the grand hotels and shops on London's Piccadilly, Burlington House is home to the Royal Academy, which houses some of the most definitive temporary art exhibitions in the capital. It is also the address of the Royal Academy Shop, one of London's best-kept shopping secrets.

The shop contains merchandise designed or inspired by Royal Academicians — 80 elected members of the RA who are all practising painters, sculptors, printmakers or architects. Peter Blake, Sir Norman Foster and David Hockney are all Academicians, and the list of past members includes John Constable, Thomas Gainsborough, J. M. W. Turner and Sir Joshua Reynolds, the RA's founding president.

The shop sells a wide range of products not affected by the changing exhibitions, many of which are also available from the RA mail-order catalogue. Pieces are commissioned from Academicians and young artists training at the Academy Schools behind the public galleries. The Academy also buys in and commissions products to complement exhibitions.

The current exhibition at the RA, *The Palladian Revival*, examines the influence of 16th-century Italian architect Andrea Palladio on British designers such as Lord Burlington, Inigo Jones, and Colen Campbell during the 18th century. An architectural theme was used when selecting merchandise to coincide with the exhibition. (These are not available by mail order.) On sale during *The Palladian Revival* is a range of stationery by Barbara Wiggins, which has a sepia-toned composition of detailed designs printed on a cylindrical pencil pot (£4.95), matching pencils (75p each) and an architect's folder and clipboard (£11.95).



The Royal Academy shop has a fine selection of gifts, many designed by luminaries of the arts world

Jewellery designer Pamina has produced a collection inspired by sleek Ionic columns: smart silver cufflinks (£49.95) or gilt (£69.95); a silver keyring (£70) with a cut-out based on Michaelangelo's *Study for a Portal*, which inspired Palladio, and consequently, Lord Burlington; and a lady's silver cuff with an architectural design (£150).

There is a black and white clock kit, sold as a flatpack (£24.95), which is easily assembled to mimic a columned Palladian-style villa.

A cushion (£45) by Emma and Timothy Ross is screen-printed with a striking black and white elevation of Chiswick House — designed and built in the Palladian style by Richard Boyle, the third Lord Burlington, between 1727 and 1729, and used as his London residence. Chiswick House is the focus of the RA exhibition, which includes more than 122 original paintings, drawings and engravings. Boyle's passion for this classical style is reflected in his design for Burlington House itself, which he remodelled during the early 18th century, with the Piccadilly frontage designed by Colen Campbell.

It is Henry Flitcroft's 1727 drawings of Chiswick House which inspired a limited edition series of bas-reliefs, created by ceramicist Jill Laurimore, on sale in the RA Shop at £195 each during the exhibition. Ms Laurimore sculpts her works freehand in clay before casting them in plaster of Paris. Alongside *Chiswick House*, her *Villa Rotonda* is based on a 1570 woodcut in Palladio's famous architectural manual *I Quattro Libri dell'Architettura*, one of Lord Burlington's original inspirations for his Chiswick House design.

The Royal Academy's shop and mail-order catalogue also includes the Make It and Play It Chess Set designed by architect Edward Cullinan CBE RA. The Kings are modelled on Mongol Emperor Ghengis Khan and the queens on Elizabeth I, which you make yourself from pre-printed card. Cullinan also created a decanter (£115), with a stopper based on his designs for the new library roof at St John's College, Cambridge.

ARCHIBLOCKS (£44.95) are a delight for anyone who takes pleasure in building things, and knocking them down again. Made from maple, there are 57 blocks, from turrets to basic bricks. A children's version with 46 half-size pieces is £19.95.

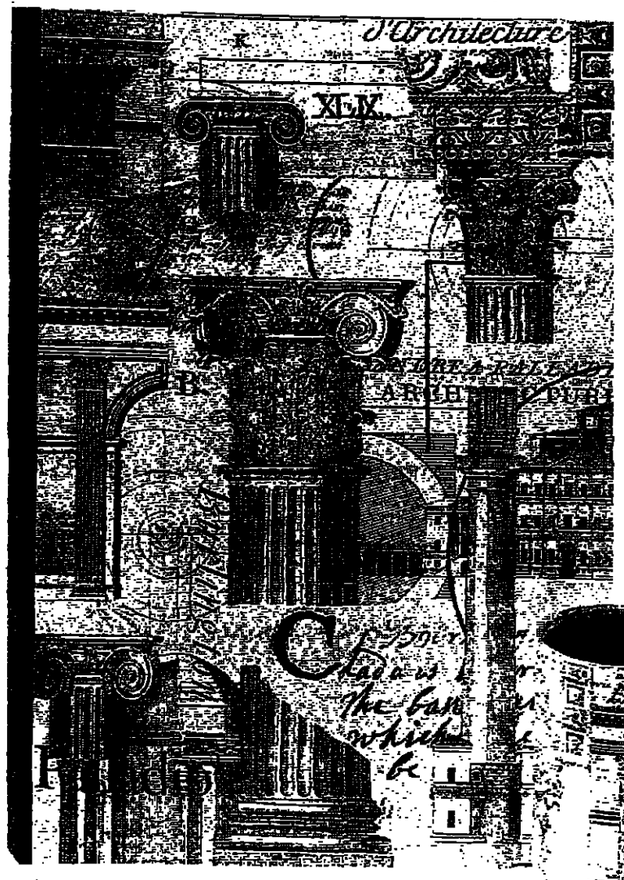
Fun With Architecture is an ingenious kit that comes with 32 stamps and an inkpad to enable you to create all the basic elements of architecture. A guidebook shows how to fit the elements together to restore famous buildings or to create new masterpieces.

The shop also has a set of wooden Miró dominos (£49.95). Instead of the usual spots they have brightly coloured abstract motifs from Miró's paintings.

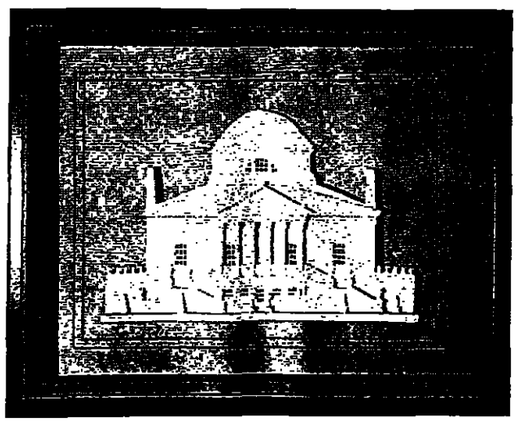
The printed silk Burlington House collection is an ongoing tribute to the Royal Academy's home. A 38in square scarf in Prussian blue and claret overprinted with architectural designs is £69.95; a matching waistcoat costs £125, a tie, £29.95.

KAREN KAY

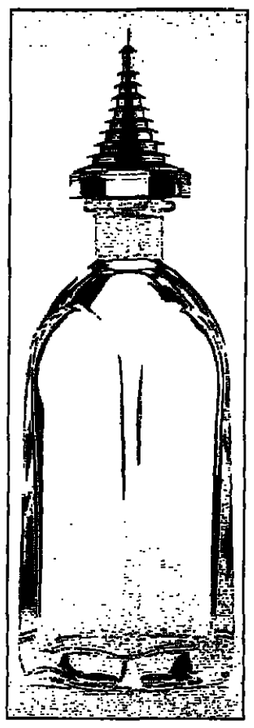
The Times's private view of the exhibition, page 3



Above: architect's folder, £11.95; pencil pot, £4.95; pencils, 75p, from a range by Barbara Wiggins



Bas-relief of Chiswick House, £195, by ceramicist Jill Laurimore, from a limited edition inspired by Henry Flitcroft's 18th-century drawings of Chiswick House



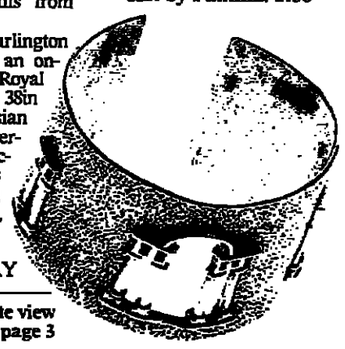
☐ *Lord Burlington, His Villa and Garden at Chiswick* by John Harris is published by Yale University Press (£40 hardback, £19 paperback) to coincide with *The Palladian Revival*, and is on sale at the RA.

☐ *The Palladian Revival* exhibition is at the Royal Academy of Arts, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0DS, and is open to the public February 2-April 2, 10am-6pm.

☐ Admission: adults, £4; students, over-60s, registered disabled, unemployed, adult groups of ten or more, £3; pre-booked college and senior school parties, Higher Education institutions and 12-18 year olds, £2; pre-booked primary school parties and eight-11 year olds, £1. Under eights, free. Further information from the Group Bookings Office (0171-494 5733).

☐ For a copy of the mail-order catalogue, call 0151-708 0555 (24 hours, seven days a week).

Far left (top): sterling silver Ionic column keyring, £70
Above left: architectural kit clock, £24.95
Above: decanter with a solid brass stopper, £115, designed by architect Edward Cullinan
Below: Silver Palladian cuff by Pamina, £150



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MEXICO: From Mayan to modern, the country remains as mysterious as ever

Where mañana never comes

TONY STONE



Beyond the ubiquitous flamboyance of Mexico's colourful costumes and sombreros lie intriguing ancient cultures well worth exploring

He looked scared but determined: a ragged boy aged about nine, grasshopper-thin, juggling tennis balls among cars revving at the traffic lights, hoping for a few pesos. I had just left one of the most luxurious hotels in the world: spectacular Mayan pyramids loomed in the distance.

Mexico is like that. A country of extremes. Stretching for 1,500 miles, south of the United States, it has a warm climate, impressive coasts and mountain ranges and well-established resorts. But a holiday in Mexico can never be like one in Tenerife or the Balearics. From the moment you elbow your way through the crowds and the beggars at the airport, it becomes obvious that this is a complex country, defying you to get under its skin.

The decisive event in shaping the country was the Spanish conquest of the Aztec empire in 1521. The result is still visible in the faces you see on a short walk through any town. There is an élite of Spanish descent, *mestizos* of mixed blood, and, at the bottom of the heap, *indigenas* (Indians) still retaining their pre-Cortes identity but little else. The tensions between them are palpable: this is a hot-blooded, torn, dysfunctional society. In the capital, Mexico City, there is a murder every 90 minutes.

Mexico is home to one of the oldest civilisations, destroyed by conquest and followed by 400 years of intermittent civil war and revolution. Until recently, the career progression of most political leaders was toward a post before a firing squad. Emiliano Zapata, assassinated in 1919, still has followers among the Chiapas Indians, hundreds of whom died in an uprising only a year ago. The survivors are now camped on the streets of the capital, demanding restoration of their land.

When the politics become too confusing, relax in the sun: take in the colour, the tequila, lush vegetation; meet people who are welcoming, laid-back and cheerful. *Mañana.*

Mexico City sprawls to a length of 40 miles, a bizarre mixture of proud colonial architecture and shanty towns. Twenty million people live here, including an estimated two million street children, many surviving by prostitution. Dense traffic creates pollution that turns the air brown, and petrol fumes make it difficult to breathe: but among the chaos are 16th-century monasteries, baroque churches of great beauty and dramatic Aztec remains.

On the edge of the metropolis is Teotihuacan, a largely intact Mayan city abandoned in the 7th century (the Aztecs came later). The massive Pyramids of the Sun and Moon are linked by the Avenue of the Dead, a paved, ceremonial way lined with the shells of temples and palaces. As with other Mayan sites, the effect is awesome and mysterious, for so little is known of the civilisation that created them. Why did 200,000 souls suddenly vanish into the jungle? Were the pyramids really for human sacrifice or is that, as some *indigena* scholars suggest, a myth put about by the invaders to justify the genocide of a cultivated people?

Despite Mexico City's size, it is easy to get about: the Metro and taxis are cheap. The Zona Rossa is the city's Soho, vibrant with bars, nightclubs and restaurants. There are lots of markets, selling handicrafts, vegetables, clothes, vivid pottery, elegant silverwork and well-crafted leather.

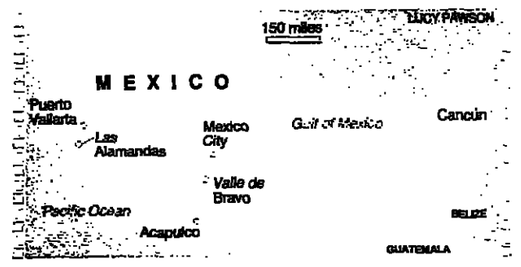
Places to stay range from reasonably priced pensions to luxury hotels. The art-deco Hotel Marquis Reforma offers a central location, cool fountains, friendly service and excellent cuisine. The elegant wives and *Baywatch* bimbos of the Mexican jet-set sweep haughtily in and out, so if you are wearing jeans, make sure the designer label is showing.

Away from the capital, beach resorts such as Acapulco and Cancún cater principally for an American clientele. The backpacker can get around the country by bus. Food is hot and spicy. Stalls everywhere sell tortillas filled with cheese, chicken or anything you fancy. You can eat well on the street, but restaurants often offer a *menu del dia* for £2 to £3.

New to Mexico is the self-contained luxury "spa" complex, which incorporates health and fitness programmes. An example is the Avandaro Golf and Spa Resort, at Valle de Bravo in the Sierra Madre, with 60 white, adobe villas scattered among hibiscus and jacaranda trees.

The Pacific coast is hot and can be uncomfortably humid. South of Puerto Vallarta, a mini Acapulco, is the hedonistic Las Alamandas. It's expensive but, like the Avandaro, a few nights here could be a lotus-eating interlude in a tour using cheaper places to stay. Some visitors spend their whole time corralled in these well-guarded estates, but to do so misses out on the real challenge of penetrating this flamboyant yet elusive country.

MICHAEL HARTLAND



Getting there

☐ The author was a guest of Air France (0181-742 6600), which flies London-Mexico City (via Paris) from £646 Apex return. British Airways (0345 222111) flies London-Mexico City from £529 Apex return.

☐ For packages to Mexico City, Yucatán, beach resorts and Las Alamandas consult Sunset Travel, 4 Abbeville Mews, Clapham Park Road, London SW4 7BX (0171-489 9922); and Mexican Airlines Tours, 61 High Street, Barnet, Herts EN5 5UR (0181-441 4084).

☐ Hotel Marquis Reforma, Mexico City (010 525 211 3600): room only, single or double occupancy, from £140 to £260 (deluxe suite) a night (30 per cent reduction at weekends). Las Alamandas (010 52 328 55500): from £380 a night for a junior suite (single or double occupancy) to £1,600 for a four-person villa. Prices include all meals. Avandaro Golf and Spa Resort (010 52 726 60366): room only from £75 to £125 (master suite) a night. All-inclusive packages £900 to £1,500 a week.

☐ Mexican Tourist Office, 60-61 Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DS (0171-734 1058).

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☐ Hayes and Jarvis (0181-741 9902) offers a 14-day escorted Mexican Heritage tour, from £1,730 per person, including return flights Heathrow/Mexico City, B&B at 4-star hotels and travel within Mexico. The tour includes Mexico City, Oaxaca, San Cristobal and the Yucatan coast.

☐ Dragoman (01728 861133) offers escorted treks along the Inca trail through Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Chile: whale-watching at the Valdés pennisula in Argentina: the Galápagos islands: skiing in Chile and Argentina. Prices from £395 per person for a three-week trip starting in Cartagena, Colombia, to £3,440 for a 24-week trip through Latin America. Prices include travel and camping equipment, but not international air fares.

☐ Reef and Rainforest Tours (01803 866965) has a 21-day tour of Ecuador departing November 6. The price of £2,460 includes hotel or safari lodge and internal travel, but not international air fares. The tour includes Quito, Tinalandia in the Andes, by canoe to Providencia, Amazonia, and a cruise off the Galápagos islands.

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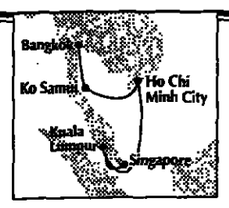
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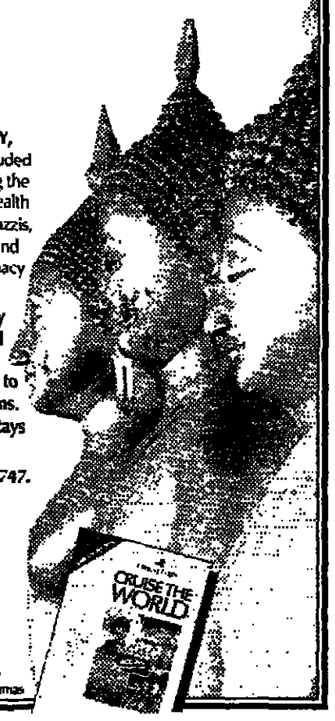
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WEEKEND BREAKS: More people are opening their homes to paying guests as a way of earning money

The discreet charm of the B&Bs





LU JEFFERY

At Stanshope Hall, in the Peak District of Derbyshire, the large, airy drawing room has flowing moorland scenes, including peacocks and towering trees, painted on its walls and ceilings

Now that largish houses in town and country have joined farmhouses and cottages in taking paying guests, going to B&Bs has become fashionable. In the new-wave B&Bs, you can prowl around the bookshelves, scan family photographs on the grand piano and regimental memorabilia in the hall, try to identify now-famous faces in the school and university group shots in the downstairs lavatory, and wonder if you could dare try such a striking colour combination in the drawing room at home.

Those who open their doors to strangers do so for a variety of reasons: unexpected Lloyd's debts, redundancy, meagre pensions, school fees, high maintenance bills for old properties, low farm incomes; occasionally simply the wish to see a family house alive again.

Women with young children often do B&B because it fits with the household routine. Many of the new-wave come from an armed services' background and are used to meeting people and putting on dinner parties, though not all B&Bs serve evening meals.

There are some pitfalls going to B&Bs: tall people should avoid those enticing thatched cottages with low doorways and solid oak beams. Cottages, by their nature, have small bedrooms, so if you are claustrophobic, check that there is a guests' sitting room or a garden to escape to.

Some old houses have the reverse problem: bedrooms so vast that light and heat barely penetrate the corners, and bathrooms, usually with a claw-foot Victorian bath and brown lino, that are as big as studio flats. Ask about heating before booking.

Although a comfortable B&B costs from £17 to £20 (depending on area), some grand places charge more than £30 per person. Evening meals are between £12 and £20. A few places have liquor licences; with most of the rest you can take your own wine.

The following B&Bs are chosen as much for the personality of the owners as the attraction of their homes. Prices given are per person a night with two people sharing a double room. Longer stays can be better value.

☐ **Stanshope Hall, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire (01335 310278).**

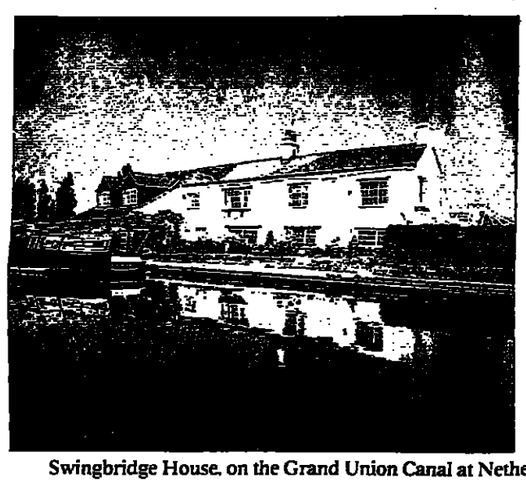
From £20, dinner £16.50.

The austere, flagged hall and stone staircase lower the spirits a little. But then, the flowing moorland scene, with peacocks and cloudy sky, painted on the drawing room walls and ceiling, and the deep coral dining room, where the pattern of the carpet echoes the ceiling design, are so unexpected and so cheeringly exotic that one is instantly won over.

The previous owner of this listed building was a theatrical *set designer, so the three large en-suite bedrooms are just as* entertaining. One has Greek columns either side of the window, another has fierce-eyed fish swimming across the bathroom wall. In the big drawing room, where an open fire burns in the Victorian grate, assorted easy chairs promise evenings of entertaining conversation.

Naomi Chambers and Nick Lourie, who chose to do B&B rather than having it forced on them, run their house with a blend of informality and efficiency. As they have two small sons, theirs is a child-friendly house. It is surrounded by the undulating dry-stone walls and rushing streams of the Peak District National Park.

● *More large houses in* The Good Bed and Breakfast Guide *(Consumers' Association, £13.99).*



Swingbridge House, on the Grand Union Canal at Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire, is a former boatmen's inn

☐ **Waterton Garden Cottage, Ampney Crucis, Gloucestershire (10285 851303).**

£22.50, dinner £20.

The minute you walk into the high-ceilinged drawing room, with its soft green carpet, pale coral chairs and sofa, you know you will enjoy your stay. This is a team effort. Mary Cassidy, who is a full-time teacher, was responsible for the decor of this converted Victorian stable block. Her husband, Ian, with a background in catering and hospitality, takes care of the food, which is exceptional. Guests have a complete wing to themselves — drawing room, dining room, breakfast room and three bedrooms (two double, one single) with *en-suite* shower rooms. Cirencester and all the delights of the Cotswolds are close at hand.

● *Waterton Garden Cottage is one of a handful of B&Bs in the* 1995 Michelin Guide — Great Britain and Ireland *(£11.95).*

☐ **Swingbridge House, Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire (01327 341383).**

£27.50, dinner £16.50.

"So many friends came to stay when we moved from Fulham, west London, seven years ago, that we thought we may as well do B&B," says Peta Jacobi, a dab hand at interior design. Even on dull days, reflected light from the Grand Union Canal almost directly outside one of the windows, flickers on the beamed, white ceiling of the long drawing room. Antique furniture, pale fitted carpets, an open inglenook fire and unobtrusive but comfortable armchairs give a restrained English feel to this 200-year-old former canal inn.

All three guest rooms — one small single, two big double with window seats overlooking the canal — are prettily furnished. The "blue bedroom" is particularly attractive. Mrs Jacobi, who made all the curtains and the intricate patchwork quilting, teaches traditional tower-and-roses narrowboat painting.

Althorp, Canons Ashby, Stowe gardens and attractive ironstone villages are to hand.

● *The Jacobis are members of Wolsey Lodges, a group of more than 200 grand-to-modest houses offering B&B and dinner (01449 741771).*

☐ **The Beeches, Carlisle, Cumbria (01228 511962).**

£17.50 (no dinner).

This little Georgian gem, a mile from the city centre, is in a road of listed buildings far enough away from the rushing traffic to be quiet. This is another team effort: Heather Kirkpatrick works for Laura Ashley and is responsible for the decor. Bill, who is home all the time, cooks breakfast and runs the house. There are fresh flowers and fruit in the three small, country-style bedrooms and, as there is just one bathroom, rooms have wash-basins. Blue-and-white plates and other family treasures add atmosphere to the dining room.

This would be a good stop for a family with teenage children on the journey north, or for exploring Carlisle.

● *More places to stay in* The Carlisle Good Accommodation Guide *(01228 34339).*

☐ **Pentwyn Farm, Little Mill, Pontypool, Gwent (01495 785249).**

£18, dinner £10

Activities and culture are the draw for guests here. Raglan Castle, the Brecon canal, Hay-on-Wye, the Brecon Beacons and the Black Mountains are close by.

Ann and Stuart Bradley, who have three grown-up children, say that their guests include couples escaping city pressures, as well as families.

The outdoor swimming pool in the garden of this 16th-century traditional Welsh longhouse is popular with tourists in summer.

The sitting room is big and comfortable, with a sweetly scented ash fire on cold days, magazines and nice pieces of old furniture. Brass-buttoned chairs and old red glass on deep window ledges in the spacious dining room add to the feeling of well-being. The three smallish *en-suite* bedrooms are pleasant.

Mrs Bradley is noted for her cooking, so book dinner.

● *More inns, farms and guest houses in Wales in* Great Little Places (0686 668030).

☐ **Leyden House, Mortlake, Surrey (01905 613746).**

£108 per person for two nights, dinner, bed and breakfast.

The guests' sitting room in this historic riverside house facing the finish of the Boat Race is almost 40ft long, has a warming, wood-burning stove in a massive Tudor fireplace, old rugs on polished wood floors, a couple of sofas, masses of books and a breakfast table overlooking the garden. The owner, Rachael Keeling, who has two guest bedrooms in her rambling and listed house, is a Lloyd's name and a newcomer to B&B. "I'm enjoying it immensely," she says. "We've always entertained a lot, so it holds no terrors. The guests have acres of space." And so they have. The two large bedrooms, with adjoining bathrooms, occupy the whole floor.

"I tell visitors that we're half way between Heathrow and Harrods," she adds.

● *Leyden House is one of 60 town and country properties in* Mansions & Manors *(01905 613746).*

DYMPHNA BYRNE

● *Some of the above B&Bs are also listed in the* The Best Bed and Breakfast — England, Scotland and Wales 1995 *(UKHM Publishing, £9.70), and the less well-known but engagingly written* Distinctly Different *(01225 866648), which features B&Bs in properties with an unusual former life — barns, schools, rectories, mills, warehouses, a brothel, a bothy, a lighthouse and Florence Nightingale's onion store.*

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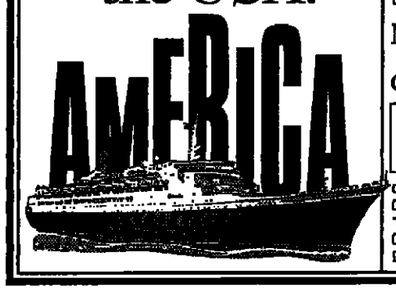
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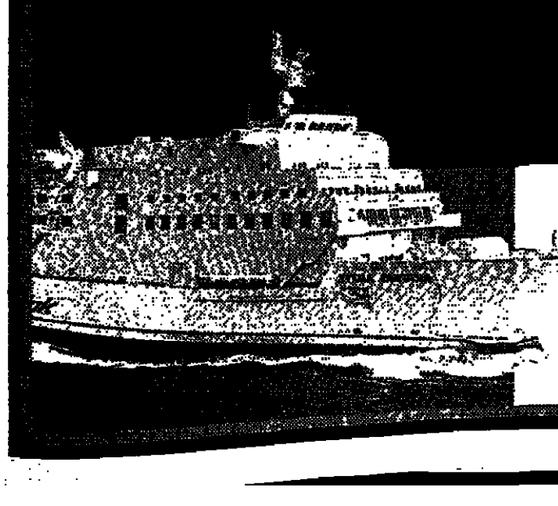
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SOUTH-EAST ASIA: A moonlit festival in Sri Lanka and a sleaze-free trip to Pattaya in Thailand

PICTURES



In the 5th century BC, Buddha is said to have visited Sri Lanka three times. On one occasion he went to Kelaniya, which commemorates the event with a great festival every January

A glittering cast of thousands

The Mount Lavinia Hotel in Colombo is an old brigadier of a building. Silver-haired and bushy with balustrades, it could have been a seat of colonial government. In the film, *Bridge over the River Kwai*, it was the military hospital where William Holden convalesced.

Beyond the portico, on the terrace beside the coffee shop, there is a notice of unlikely activities: fortune-telling, fire-walking and elephant rides on the beach. You can get a club sandwich 24 hours a day in the Mount Lavinia but, as in the rest of the country, you will not be served alcohol when the moon is full, in deference to the Buddhist Poya days.

There are two books in every guest room: a Gideon *New Testament* and *The Teaching of Buddha*. Sri Lanka never ceases to bounce you between the familiar and the phenomenal. And with a truce now called between the Government and the Tamils in the distant North, tourism is starting to return to this beguiling island.

In the 5th century BC, Buddha is said to have visited Sri Lanka three times. On one of those occasions he came to Kelaniya, a town a few miles east of Colombo. At the full moon every January there is a festival to celebrate the visit. By dusk, a crowd of perhaps 100,000 had gathered along the road at the foot of the temple, and the night air smelt of smoke drifting from the torches lighting the route the procession would take.

Many people had been there hours. Hundreds of families, the children asleep, were spread out on groundsheets in a gently squirming mosaic, waiting for the festivities to begin.

The procession began just before 11pm led by a police car, blue lights flashing, and a white truck with "Sinha Trades" on its side. They were



to be the last contact with the familiar until an army lorry brought up the rear almost two hours later. What passed in the meantime belonged strictly to the phenomenal.

In a drumming, dancing, piping, halting parade, lit by torches of burning copra, 40 elephants and 2,000 men snaked slowly by in a sort of spiritual circus. There were men with whips; men twirling long fiery batons; temple officials in shimmering costumes; flag-bearers and fire-eaters and tumblers, and children dancing with a kind of maypole.

There were monks protected by ceremonial umbrellas of gorgeous brocades, and dancers in fantastic helmets, silver and jewelled. There were dignitaries in turbans; more dancers in masks; and men dressed as monkeys, bears and dragons: all passed by to the rattle and thump of 100 drums and the reedy squawk of *nalawa* flutes.

And there were the elephants, interspersed through the parade, each masked and caped in brilliant embroideries of gold, white, red, orange, yellow, pink, purple and green. The biggest, a great bull, had his head illuminated, like Harrods, in little electric bulbs. He was caparisoned in scarlet and gold, his tusks tasselled and sheathed in silver, and he moved with the dignity of a king.

On his back swayed a turret-shaped howdah containing a Buddhist relic. This too was picked out in lights powered by a little muttering generator being wheeled along behind. A team of attendants laid a continuous path in strips of white cloth for the elephant to walk on, which they rolled up again as soon as he had passed. Apparently old temple elephants refuse to move unless their way is properly carpeted.

In August there is an even greater procession in Kandy, the old capital. It is one of the biggest festivals in Asia, but then Kandy holds the most sacred of all Sri Lanka's relics, the Buddha's tooth. It has its own temple, the Temple of the Tooth, to which five priests and 13 elephants are attached. There the tooth is kept behind bullet-proof glass in a gold reliquary garlanded with jewels. Every day it is offered three meals; every Wednesday it is bathed.

We had come to Kandy by diesel train, waddling down from the lumpy hills, back to the heat and the palm trees. A constant procession of pedestrians stepped off the track to let us pass, the girls shading themselves under umbrellas.

Sri Lanka's Hill Country, shorn of all but a sparse bristle of trees, is upholstered in tea bushes. They grow waist-high as dense as broccoli heads. The Hill Club at Nuwara Eliya was founded by planters in 1895. The billiard table is the original. It stands in its own darkened sanctum beneath a mahogany scoreboard and the rules of Rangoon Snooker, and is almost as revered as the Buddha's tooth. Women were not admitted to the Billiard Room until 1947 and then only on Wednesday nights and by a side door. They were allowed to play on "the second table".

Today the club is a stop for tourists. There are still Room Boys, log fires, a Men's Bar and hot-water bottles in the beds, and jackets and ties must be worn after 7pm. But the food is dreadful and the service amnesiac. Like the society from which it came, the Hill Club has for a 100 years mistaken convention for standards.

Below the tea country we drove through vast valleys of infinite green, brilliantly enamelled with paddy fields. We climbed the 600ft rock stump of Sigiriya, up a kind of dizzy fire escape to the remains of the citadel on the summit. We drank the refreshing milk from coconuts cracked open at the roadside. We marvelled at the ruins of Polonnaruwa, the medieval capital, and at the temple stupas of the even older capital of Anuradhapura, which was the centre of an advanced civilisation 2,500 years ago.

We watched an elephant take her daily bath. She lay on her side in a river of brown water, foppishly waving her trunk as her mahout took two hours to scrub her with a coconut husk.

At the Kothduwa monastery on an island in a lake south of Ahungalla we tiptoed round a class of 50, mainly elderly, women taking instruction in meditation from a monk sitting immobile in front of them. And then, aboard a plastic launch, we bounced back across the water to our hotel and the more frail certainties of the familiar.

PETER HUGHES

Getting there: tours and beaches

☐ The author was a guest of Thomson WorldWide.

☐ The week-long Ceylon Sapphires Tour starts in Colombo and visits Nuwara Eliya, Kandy and Kandalamar, from where there are trips to the ruined capitals. The tour is combined with a week on the coast, either at the Mount Lavinia Hotel in Colombo or further south at the Hotel Triton. From £799 for 14 nights (full board on tour, B&B at the beach).

☐ A cheaper alternative is available from the Thomson Faraway Shores brochure: two weeks at the beach costs from £499 half board. A three-day excursion to Kandy and the tea country with full-board accommodation can be added from £149.

☐ Brochures from travel agents; or the Thomson Holiday Shop. Tel: 0171-707 9000 (London) or 0161-911 9000 (Manchester).

☐ No visas are required for British citizens. Malaria tablets are essential. There are two rainy seasons: late April, May and June and October and November. Winter temperatures: 85F-90F.

All quiet on the sex front

Pattaya, one of the world's notorious sex capitals, is denigrated regularly in the media for its paedophile rings, absurdly cheap rates for prostitution, and as a haven for criminals, not to mention its badly polluted sea. Which all conjures up the question: "Why should anyone bother to go there on holiday?"

The incentive was an unbeatable two-week special offer costing £489 to fly Qantas, stay at a leading hotel, bask in temperatures of 89F, with the prospect of Thai noodles, good shopping and large swimming pools. I suspected that the reality might be less appealing.

But on arrival in Bangkok, complimentary drinks all the way, we were met by an air-conditioned chauffeur-driven car to speed us the three-hour drive to Pattaya. Had some mistake been made? This smacked of first-class service, not a cheap deal.

Even the hotel was not the Oriental dive I had anticipated. The Asia is set outside Pattaya in tropical gardens overrun with bougainvillea, and palms full of *mynah* birds. Meandering through the heart of these grounds is a swimming pool with a submerged bar. The options continue: on one side a nine-hole golf course, on the other a downhill walk through yet more exotic plant life to a beach with panoramic views across the bay to Coral Island anchored on the horizon. Where was the sleaze?



Pattaya beach

I had been expecting unsavory characters loitering on the beach offering unspeakable services. True, there were countless hard-working, friendly Thais selling beach bags, watches and wallets, but the most personal service on offer was a manicure costing 100 baht (£2.60).

There was a flourishing beach culture: small restaurants, looking curiously makeshift, produced exceptional noodle and curry dishes laced with fresh basil and chilli at prices never above £3; the beer was cold, and your personal deckchair and umbrella set you back 50 pence a day. By midday the beach — with not a trace of pollution — was a jigsaw of sun-worshippers from every continent, interspersed with low-key hagglers selling the latest Ray Ban or Rolex lookalikes.

This did not match expectation. Where was the vice? It was, in fact, seven minutes by open taxi to notorious downtown Pattaya, affectionately known as "The Strip". Here, more than 400 beer bars exude the transient appeal of the fairground, all trying to entice lonely male punters with bevies of scantily clad girls battling bravely to sell one drink.

The flashing neon lights, the bizarre range of clubs and go-go dancing establishments, and the wandering tourists simply merge into a multi-coloured blur of strobe lighting and terribly loud music. Gratification seemed a fading dream — the go-go dancers had no rhythm and looked deeply bored propping up podium poles supposedly designed for more wicked antics.

This particular sex capital had a distinctly U-certificate feel. Where else could you find Ronald McDonald and giant pink bears jostling with the prostitutes for tourist trade? Clearly the Government's clean-up progamme was having some effect. But as one old Pattaya hand — an expatriate busy building golf courses — told me: "With this place you simply see what you choose. It's all here, it just depends what you are looking for." That is probably true.

For the "ordinary" visitor or family, happy to explore the beaches, the prolific markets, street stalls, gem shops and tailors, there was little to cause serious offence — most disconcerting were the mountains of deep-fried locusts and beetles, a Thai snack enjoyed at sunset on the pier.

The decision where to eat each night was never easily agreed upon. For exceptional Thai food, the PIC Kitchen (on Soi 5) is reminiscent of a shrine garden, a setting which contrasts vividly with the Nang Nual on "The Strip", where you single out live seafood to be cooked for you, and eat it under the stars.

It is a challenge to run up a bill over £10, and every taste is accommodated. The Blue Parrot, a Mexican diner, is an unexpected time warp, giving a distinct impression that the US fleet has just pulled out with mementos from the Vietnam War on the walls. For those in need of discipline, The Classroom offers an appropriately corrective service.

Ironically, the all-consuming passion in this sinful city appears not to be the Thai belle or boy but the giant motorcycle, on hire for next to nothing. Two-tone Harley Davidsons seemed the answer to most male dreams. With many riders sporting only shorts and no crash helmet you know you are a long way from home.

JUDITH PARSONS

Fact file

☐ The author's 14-night Quantas "special offer" holiday to Thailand staying at the three-plus star Asia Hotel, Pattaya, cost £489 per person sharing, including non-stop flight to Bangkok and transfers, on a room-only basis.

☐ Bookings through Asiaworld Travel, 230 Station Road, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 2PH (01932 820050).

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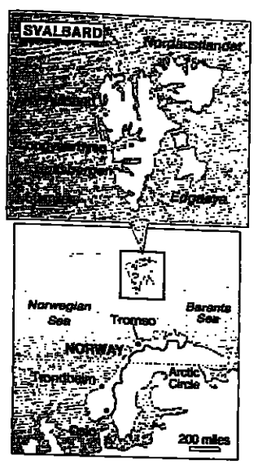
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Wandering in a winter wonderland





From the deck of the cruise ship you can see seals, reindeer, puffins, Arctic terns, guillemots and even walrus, which, in the water, look like pieces of cumbersome driftwood

Svalbard is an island group about 400 miles north of the Norwegian mainland and within the Arctic Circle. Two-thirds of the landscape is covered permanently by snow and ice, there are no trees and little flora. For four months of the year the sun never goes down, and for three months it never rises. The area has an average temperature of about 5C/41F (it can drop to below -30C/-22F in winter, but rises to 21C/70F in summer). Its population is about 1,100.

Such a place may not seem an obvious destination for a summer holiday but, after joining a three-day cruise around the Nordic fiords last August, I can recommend it.

I flew from Gatwick to Oslo with the Norwegian airline Braathens, taking connecting flights to Trondheim and Tromso, where our party spent the night before flying on to Longyearbyen, the administrative centre of Svalbard on the island of Spitzbergen, where the cruise began. The total flying time was about 6½ hours.

Longyearbyen is a mining town and is encased in snow and ice for most of the year. The houses are wooden and painted in bright pinks, mauves and yellows to jolly things up but, to be honest, the place is still remarkably ugly. However, its proximity to the Arctic wilderness means that tourism is a growing industry.

The hotel we stayed in was sumptuous, and the welcome very warm, but there is only one local bar and the tourist office's boast of the town's great nightlife and variety is a touch exaggerated.

My travelling companions all said they loved Longyearbyen. I thought it looked like a mining village surrounded by beach huts, and I was happy to leave it behind for the shipboard delights of the *Nordstjernen*.

These proved to be of the comfortable rather than the luxurious or flashy variety. Warm, cosy and designed to take no more than 80 passengers (most of them Norwegian couples aged over 55), the ship had a bar, small shop and separate smoking and non-smoking lounges. There was no gym, disco or cabaret, as it's not that sort of ship or trip. Because you are there to sightsee in inhospitable temperatures, what you need above all else is plenty of heat and good food, and these are in ample supply.

The Norwegians have a refreshingly healthy attitude to food — no namby-pamby nouvelle cuisine — and the ship's fare, which is included in the price of the trip, was superb. Not so the alcohol: two small beers and two gin-and-tonics cost £10. The cheapest bottle of wine (Chilean red) was £16 a litre, and it tasted more like paint-stripper. Perhaps that's why my companions' requests for a second bottle were met with surprise.

The ship's cabins were a little cramped. I had a "super-deluxe" one, but even this was not much bigger than the average two-berth cabin on a cross-Channel ferry, although the shower was powerful and hot. (Talking of heat, do not listen to anyone, especially a Norwegian, who tells you that it isn't really cold within the Arctic Circle. It *is* cold. Take thermal underwear and lots of layers. If you don't you will freeze.) The temperature was a generous 2C/28F when we were there, but the wind-chill factor takes all temperatures down by about 20C.

> "The Svalbard landscape is so bewitching that most of us spent nearly all our time on deck"

What do you *do* there for three days? Well, the Svalbard landscape is so bewitching that most of us spent nearly all our time on deck. The scenery is staggeringly diverse. In places, the mountains either side of the fiords look like Alps flooded up to their snow-capped peaks with Indian ink. Sometimes they resemble the Scottish highlands: great lumps of imposing, gritty, hostile granite. Then there are those so rich in iron ore that they are a startling brilliant orange; they look as if they have been accidentally transplanted into the Arctic from the central Australian desert, to burn the eye grown used to pearly hues and assault the imagination which has never equated ice and water with hot, fiery colours.

Not all the sightseeing takes place from the ship. On the last day of the cruise we disembarked for a morning at Ny-Alesund, the most northerly settlement in the world. Once a thriving village and home to the explorer Roald Amundsen, it is now a scientific research station, with a curious bleak charm. Eighty people live there in the summer, 20 in the long, pitch-black winter, examining algae from the fiords and walking the few hundred yards between buildings armed with guns against possible attacks from hungry polar bears.

The thought of seeing polar bears in the wild is one of the most seductive prospects for travellers considering a trip to the Arctic. Alas, they are elusive creatures, and the only ones we saw were those killed and stuffed (before the species protection laws were enforced), and gracing the lobbies of the larger hotels.

However, our ship was encircled day and night by incredibly animated birds, which I took for common gulls until I was told they were small albatross. We also saw seals, reindeer, puffins, Arctic terns, guillemots and even walrus, albeit from a distance. They looked like pieces of cumbersome driftwood to the naked eye (remember to take your binoculars).

Do not go to Svalbard expecting to see bears or to be entertained by gangs of feuding walrus. Go knowing that the glaciers, icebergs, pristine air and, above all, the resounding silence between them provide the traveller with extraordinary beauty, peace and restoration to the eye, heart and mind.

One night when the ship was temporarily anchored I stood alone on the deck, for once uninterrupted by the whirring and clicking of camera shutters, and gazed for miles and miles across cracked, icy vistas, stabbed at curious angles by shards of soft, low light.

It was a view beyond which it was impossible to imagine the sight and sound of a busy world, and certainly to remember that such a world held any fear.

MARY LOUDON

Getting there

☐ The author was a guest of Braathens Airline (0191 214 0991) and the Spitzbergen Tourist Board (00 47 7902 2490). Return Gatwick-Svalbard flights (via Oslo, Trondheim and Tromso), about £400. A three-day cruise on the *Nordstjernen* costs £300-£400 per person.

☐ Agents who offer tailor-made holidays in this area include Norway Only (0274 735611) and Dawson and Sanderson (0191 251 4717).

CRUISE TIPS

☐ Explore Worldwide (01252 319448) offers cruises in the South Pacific by tall ship, including an 18-day cruise, starting May 18, to the islands of Tonga. Price £2,185 per person, including flights from Gatwick to Auckland, returning from Vava'u, all meals on board and use of sailing and diving equipment

☐ ESCOA Cruises (0117 9272273) has introduced three cruise-and-stay holidays to the Barrier Reef, Australia. The 16-night package includes a stay at the Ferntree Rainforest Resort, Queensland; a seven-night cruise around the reef, and a stay in Sydney — with an optional four-night extension to Ayers Rock or a cruise around Fiji's Yasawa islands. Prices from £1,995 per person, including return flights Heathrow/Cairns, cruise with full board, 4-star accommodation in Sydney and Cairns. Departures weekly until September 1995.

☐ Cruise Classified (0171-723 6773) has departures between October 1995 and March 1996 for its two-week Caribbean cruise from Miami, calling at Key West, Playa del Carmen and Cozumel (Mexico), Montego Bay (Jamaica), Grand Cayman, San Juan, St Thomas, Serena Cay and Nassau. Prices from £1,198 per person plus £95 port tax, including flights, accommodation in Miami and all meals and entertainment on board ship.

☐ Discovery Cruises (0171-586 7191) has a 12-night cruise from Athens, starting on April 21, calling at ports in Egypt, Turkey, Israel, and Cyprus. Prices from £979 per person, including return flights from Gatwick or Manchester to Athens, and all meals, entertainment and lecture programme on board ship.

CHRISTINE WHEELER

Dr Thomas Stuttaford reviews a book for travellers

Your very good health

NEARLY 15 years ago *The Times* consulted various medical insurance companies and air-ambulance agencies as part of a survey on where it was as safe to be taken ill as it would be in Britain.

Overseas medicine has improved immeasurably since then, and conditions have slipped over here. In many parts of the world at that time, the standards of comfort and care in some hospitals wouldn't have surprised William Howard Russell, *The Times*' Crimean war correspondent, who owed part of his fame to the exposure of conditions at the hospital at Scutari before Florence Nightingale took charge.

The Times survey conclusions were considered too alarming for publication without much more detailed research to substantiate them, but the statistics, such as they were, suggested that in many countries to which the British flocked it would be safer, when possible, to fly home than to seek local treatment.

Even the doctors usually recommended locally as the ones best suited for treating travellers practised a style of medicine rather different from that in Harley Street or the Mayo Clinic. The possession of a British qualification didn't necessarily guarantee that the standards demanded by the Royal Colleges when the doctors were examined in their youth would still be adhered to many years later.

Travellers can, however, buy their tickets with an easy mind, for the great majority of people who go overseas, even to the notoriously less hygienic parts of the world, do so without grave medical problems.

A guide to health, *Stay Healthy Abroad*, by Rob Ryan, deputy travel editor of *The Sunday Times*, is encouraging. Only 0.04 per cent of travellers to the tropics will need to be admitted to hospital, 0.06 per cent evacuated by air ambulance, and only one in 100,000 will, as Ryan says, "make some small corner of that foreign field forever his (or her) own".

Far better to avoid trouble than confront it. The old maxim that time spent in reconnaissance is seldom wasted applies as much to travel as to war. Time spent reading Ryan's book would certainly not be wasted, whether the intended journey is to some Mediterranean watering spot or to central Africa as a VSO worker. This book will reduce even those small chances of falling prey to serious infections, or avoidable accidents.

Ryan deals in detail with the kit needed, the immunisations required, and all the other preparations needed to withstand the overseas lifestyle, which is described region by region and country by country in places as different as Denmark and Turkmenistan.

The book is written in an easy, light style, medical facts are quoted with humour and without pomposity and his sources of information are excellent.

I shall keep my copy in my consulting rooms — it's important for doctors to have read what their patients are reading and I suspect that this book will become a favourite with travellers.

● Stay Healthy Abroad, *by Rob Ryan (Health Education Authority, £7.99).*

WORD-WATCH

Answers from page 23

ANDROCONIUM

(a) Usually in the plural *androconia*, scales on the wings of certain male Lepidoptera from which the attractive scent of the male is diffused, from the Greek *anēr, andros* a male + *konia* dust. "The flocculent yellow androconial hairs which line the interior of the pocket and which doubtless emit a smell attractive to the female."

ELODEA

(c) A member of the small genus of aquatic plants, belonging to the family Hydrocharidacea and native to temperate America, cultivated in aquaria and pools. "Elodea, the moss-like weed in most American goldfish bowls, yielded from 12 to 14 tons green weight to the acre in a Kansas pond."

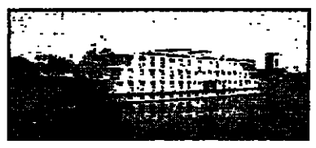
BOSTHOON

(a) An awkward fellow, a tactless, senseless person, from the Irish *bastún*, a whip made of green rods, a soft or spiritless fellow. James Joyce, *Dubliners*, 1914: "Is this what we pay rates for? To feed and clothe these ignorant bostoons [sic]?"

GALIGNANI

(b) Colloquial appellation of the English-language newspaper *Galignani's Messenger*, founded in 1814 and published daily in Paris until 1884 (and continued until 1904 as the *Daily Messenger*), eponym from the name of its founder, Giovanni Antonio Galignani, 1752-1821. George Eliot, letter of 1868: "We have been chiefly in regions innocent even of Galignani."

A Week on THE NILE



Cruise along the Nile on the MS Ra between Aswan and Luxor

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The MS Ra

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Itinerary

Day 1 Depart from London Gatwick in the morning for Aswan. On arrival join the MS Ra. Dinner and overnight on board.

Day 2 Depart in the early hours for Edfu and visit the temple. In the afternoon sail to Esna.

Day 3 Visit the temple with its hypostyle halls. Return to the vessel and sail to Luxor. In the afternoon visit the Temple of Karnak and the Temple of Luxor.

Day 4 Visit the Valley of the Kingson the west bank at Thebes and the Mortuary Temple of Queen Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari. In the afternoon take a guided tour of Luxor Museum.

Day 5 Return to the Valley of the Kings before returning to the MS Ra and cruising to Edfu to moor overnight.

Day 6 Sail to Kom Ombo to see the Ptolemaic temple then cruise to Aswan. Visit the High Dam, the ancient granite quarries of the Pharaohs and the Temple of Philae.

Day 7 There is an optional morning excursion by air to Abu Simbel (£120). Sail by felucca to Kitchener Island to visit the lush botanical gardens.

Day 8 Morning at leisure. Transfer to Aswan airport for the flight back to London Gatwick.



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Please note: itineraries may be operated in a different sequential order to that shown to avoid overcrowding at the sites.

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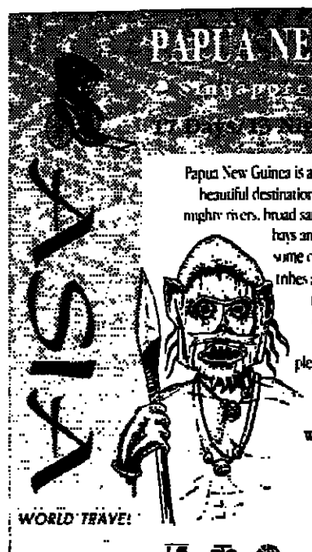
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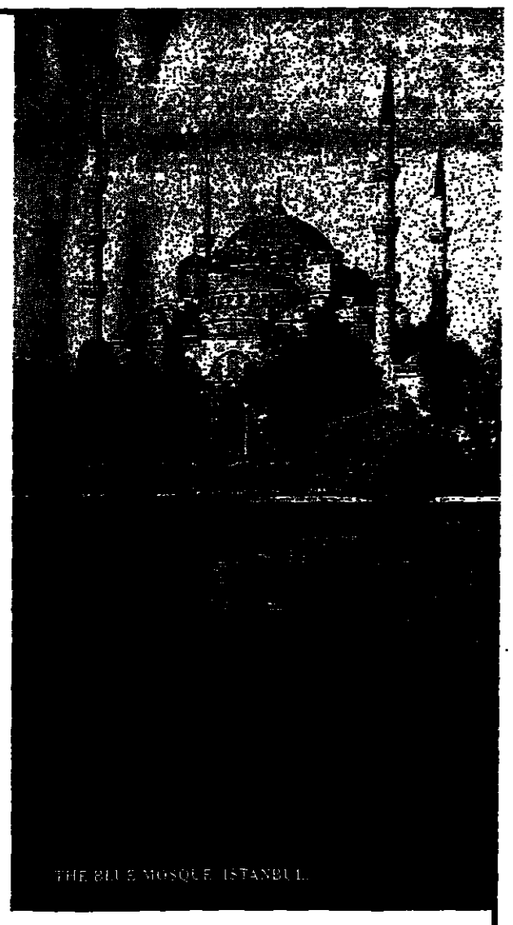
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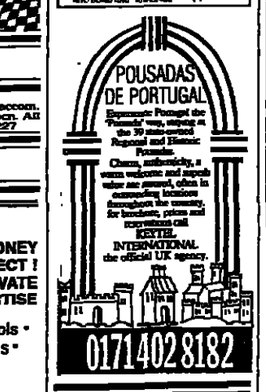
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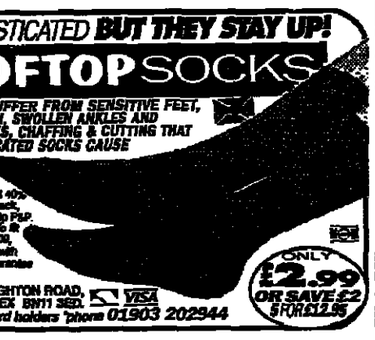
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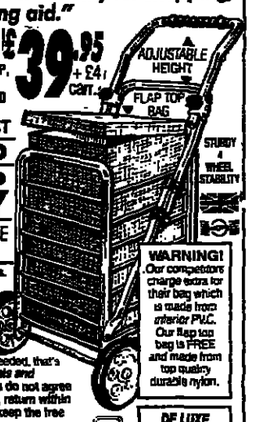
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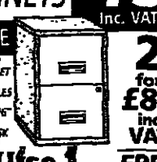
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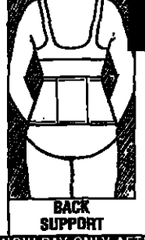
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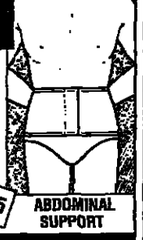
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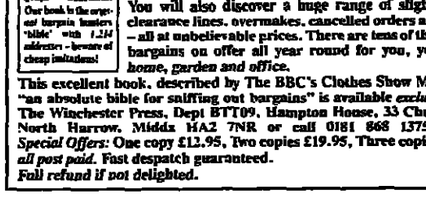


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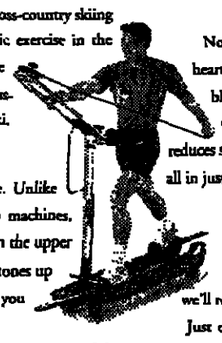
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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

The World Chess Federation semi-finals in Sanghi Nagar, India are over. Karpov, the reigning FIDE champion, triumphed over Gelfand, but in the other match Kamsky utterly demolished Salov, not conceding a single loss against one of the world's highest-ranked players.

To say that Kamsky has greatly improved over the past year would be a gross understatement. In former times, I regarded him as a grandmaster with a robotic, persistent, yet ultimately unimaginative style. The beauty, elegance and power that characterise the best games of Kasparov were notably lacking in the creations of the more pedestrian Kamsky. Now all this has changed. In Sanghi Nagar, Kamsky achieved the soaring style of Bobby Fischer himself. His play was not just effective but also aesthetic, as the following fine win demonstrates.

White: Kamsky; Black: Salov
Sanghi Nagar, 1995, Game 4

1	d4	d5	2	c4	e6
3	Nc3	Be7	4	Nf3	Nf6
5	Bg5	h6	6	Bh4	Nbd7
7	e3	0-0	8	Rc1	c6
9	Bd3	dxc4	10	Bxc4	b5
11	Bd3	a6	12	a4	bxa4

A well-analysed line of the queen's gambit declined, but quite how well-analysed will only become apparent at a later stage. If instead 12... b4 13 Ne4 Nxe4 14 Bxe7 Nxf2 15 Bxd8 Nxd1 16 Kxd1 Rxd8 17 Rxc6 with some advantage to White in the endgame as in Capablanca-Rossolimo, Paris 1938.

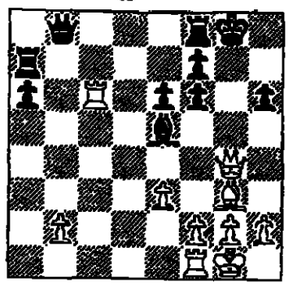
13	Nxa4	Qa5+	14	Nd2	Bb4
15	Nc3	c5	16	Nb3	Qd8
17	0-0	cxd4	18	Nxd4	Bb7
19	Be4	Qb8			

This position occurred in the 12th match game between Fischer and Spassky at Reykjavik 1972. At that time Fischer continued with 20 Bg3, which permitted Black eventually to make a draw. Kamsky is ready with an improvement on that game but, as we shall see, White's 20th move is by no means the last of his theoretical refinements.

20 Nc6 Bxc6 21 Bxc6 Ra7 22 Bg3 Ne5 23 Qd4. This is considerably more aggressive than 23 Qe2 Bd6 24 Rfd1 Bc7 25 Ne4 Neg4, with equality as in the game Agzamov-Georgadze, Taskent 1984.

23... Bd6 24 Ne4. A further vigorous stroke. The interpolation 24 Rfd1 Bc7 and only now 25 Ne4 is rendered harmless by 25... Nh5, as in Pinter-Martin, Linz 1984.

24... Nxc6 25 Nxf6+ gxf6 26 Rxc6 Be5 27 Qg4+



Amazingly, this is the first new move of the game, and it is a finesse which gives White a virtually overwhelming position. Salov had been relying on an old analysis by the Georgian Grandmaster Georgadze, which gave only 27 Bxe5 fxe5 28 Qh4 Kh7 29 Qe4+ Kg7 30 f4 exf4 31 Rxf4 Qxb2, when Black can defend himself. By retaining bishops on the board, Kamsky dramatically increases his chances of attack.

27... Kh7 28 Qe4+ Kg7 29 f4 Bc7. If 29... Bxb2, both 30 f5 and 30 Rb1 retain White's initiative.

30 Be1 Qb5. It is always dangerous to take the b-pawn with the queen, but in this case it would be fatal, e.g. 30... Qxb2 31 Bc3 Qb5 32 Rf3 Bd8 33 Rg3+ Kh8 34 Rc8 e5 35 Rh3 Kg7 36 Qf5 exf4 37 Rc5 Qe2 38 Qg5+ and wins.

31	Rf3	Rd8	32	Rg3+	Kh8
33	h3	Qd5	34	Qc2	Bd6.

Black's case is hopeless, for if 34... Bb8, then 35 Bc3 Be5 36 Bxe5 fxe5 37 Qf5 and White wins.

35 e4 Black resigns.

After 35... Qd4+, 36 Bf2 wins material, while any other move with the queen on move 35 allows Rxd6 followed by Qc8+.

WINNING MOVE

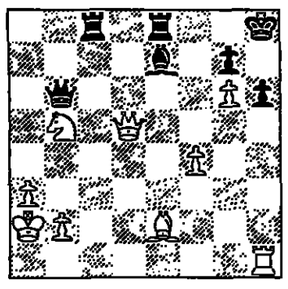
By Raymond Keene

This week's positions are all taken from Garry Kasparov's Puzzle Book (Cadogan £8.99). This position is from the game Lputian - Maahs, Antwerp 1993. The black king appears quite safe, but White proved that this is not the case. What is the fastest way to win?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Qxh6+

Last week's winners: M S Gavin, Cambridge; J J Gill, Ramsey, Isle of Man; E Kohlmorgen, Aldershot, Hants.



PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon caption 47, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, March 8.



"THE UNKINDEST CUT OF ALL."

The Major. "Would you advise me to have these few Hairs in Front cut off?"
Haircutter. "U—m——Well, Sir
—I should 'ESTIMATE BEFORE I SACRIFICED MY ONLY HORNAMENT!!"



Heard in Kensington Palace Gardens
"Psst! Agents of influence!"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Lt Col W. R. Lawson of Newnham Bridge, Hereford and Worcester

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ANDROCONIUM
a. Butterfly scent
b. Killing the males
c. A harem

ELODEA
a. A marsh nymph
b. Pity
c. A water plant

BOSTHOON
a. A tactless fool
b. An Irish horn
c. To bully

GALIGNANI
a. Italian Croatians
b. An English newspaper
c. Leather shorts

Answers on page 19

COMPUTER GAMES

FOOTBALL titles have established a firm foothold in the games market. Perhaps the most sophisticated of the genre is Gremlin Interactive's "Premier Manager 3", now available for PC and CD-Rom, as well as the Amiga.

This is a football management game and, long before kick-off at the first friendly, you are hiring, firing and training players, improving the ground and looking for those all-important sponsors. But a knowledge of, or even enthusiasm for, the sport is not necessary: this is as much a business sim as anything else.

Am enthusiast of the title is Mr Sartain from Liverpool, who was our sixth winner in Cyberspace Twelve, the results of which were announced last week. Mr Sartain succinctly summed up its obsessive qualities thus: "Management games are often associated with the anorak brigade who actually need to get a life," he wrote. "But this game can take over. All the time you're working out team tactics: should the winger have a more attacking role or is the defence playing flat?"

The success of "Premier Manager 3" is no fluke shot. Gremlin Interactive's original title was good, the sequel was slightly better but it is this tightened and titillated third version which undoubtedly establishes them as masters of the art.

New choices include hiring an assistant manager to help with the day-to-day running of the club, as well as revised options for training, tactics and playing the transfer market. As always, you have the choice of seeing a match as a blur or painstakingly played out.

YOU start in the conference league, with little budget and a hotch-potch of players and personnel (scouts, trainers and coaches). These each rate fair or good, but by juggling your opportunities the aim is to build up a club of individuals rated supreme and world class. That's the aim, in any case.

In reality, getting higher than the second division will ta[illegible] more than a week of late nights a[illegible] the game engine calling the [illegible]nots is so precise. Some of the goals are linked not only to the players' capabilities but to your own as a manager. Forgetting to spot a better coach or new sponsor between matches can tip the balance of the game and you with it into an unpleasant downward spiral. Hypersensitive bosses fire without warning if their faith in you wanes: then it's goodbye Manchester United: hello Merthyr Tydfil.

The game, which is for one or two players, costs £25.99 (Amiga versions) or £34.99 (PC and CD-Rom), but £20 gives you the latest version of "goal94" by mail order from New Era Software (0131-333 4958), in which six or more managers can compete simultaneously.

New Era brought us Wizard's witty "Rockstar" but "goal94" is no similar masterpiece. The graphics are so jarring that you need to play the game wearing a pair of sunglasses indoors and that makes you look like a celebrity or a spot welder.

Only a hardened cynic might argue that all these games are still for the life-evading anorak brigade as, in essence, all one really does is endlessly rearrange a list.

TIM WAPSHOTT

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

BRITISH TEAMS

THE British Bridge League has announced its teams for the 1995 European Championship, to be played in Portugal in June. The Open Team is John Armstrong and Graham Kirby, Andrew Dyson and Glyn Liggins, and Gerald and Stuart Tredinnick. David Price is "npc" (non-playing captain). The Women's Team is Pat Davies and Nicola Smith, Sandra Landy and Michele Handley, and Kay Preddy and Jill Casey. The first three of the team have all won the world championship. Their npc is Tony Priday, about the best captain I have played under.

The surprising omission from the Open Team is that of Tony Forrester and Andrew Robson, Britain's only undisputed world-class pair. This is because Forrester will be playing in the trials for the USA Team. The rules governing eligibility in international bridge are rather more lax than those of, say, football: if you have appropriate residential qualifications and have not played for another country in the last four years, you can change allegiance. Both Forrester and Robson play a lot of bridge in the USA, on "sponsored" teams. These are teams in which the sponsor pays the others on the team to play with him. The going rate for the best players to play in an American national tournament (of which there are three a year, each taking about a week) is around $10,000. Payment for the more minor events is less, but a top professional can work every week of the year if he or she wishes. Bobby Wolff, the former president of the World Bridge Federation, told me that there are at least a dozen players in the USA making $100,000 a year.

If there is anyone in this country making that sort of money out of playing bridge I would be surprised. So, not unnaturally, our best players will spend much of their playing time in the USA.

Forrester's probable team-mates for the US Trials will be Mahmood-Rosenberg, Martell-Stansby, and Seymon-Deutsch. The latter four won the Rosenblum Cup at the Pairs Olympiad in Alberquerque last October. This is one of the three team events to carry the tag of being a World Championship (the others being the Team Olympiad, and the most prestigious, the Bermuda Bowl).

SLAM BIDDING

IT IS a general principle of slam bidding that you should be sure that your trump suit is sound. So in potential slam auctions: (a) be wary of bidding bad suits when you have a good hand; (b) be careful when co-operating with slam tries if you have poor support. Eric Kokish reports this hand from the final of the Rosenblum, in which the American team played against the Polish national team: Stansby was North, Balicki East, Martel South and Zmudzinski West.

Dealer West — Love all — IMPs

	♠8 ♥1082 ♦AJ86 ♣AKJ74	
♠7542 ♥K ♦K42 ♣109632	N W E S	♠J1093 ♥A65 ♦Q109753 ♣—
	♠AKQ6 ♥QJ9743 ♦— ♣Q85	

W	N	E	S
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♦[1]
Pass	4 NT[2]	Pass	5 NT[3]
Pass	6♣[4]	Pass	7♥[5]
Pass	Pass	Double[6]	All Pass

1 A "splinter". As I have mentioned before, most tournament players have the agreement that an "unusual" jump shows a singleton or void.

2 This is the point at which the auction went off the rails. Stansby's trumps, although adequate for playing in game, were much too weak to allow him to co-operate in a slamming sequence. His 4 NT took control of the sequence — it was asking for aces.

3 This apparently showed a void in diamonds and only one of the five "aces" (the four aces plus the king of trumps).

4 After the 5 NT response, North could see that Six Hearts would be at best on a finesse for the king of trumps. So rather late in the day he tried to shift to another suit. He hoped South would pass Six Clubs and that he could discard some losing hearts on South's presumed good spades.

5 Unfortunately South interpreted North's Six Clubs as a grand slam try, seeking help in the club suit. As he had the critical the queen of clubs, he considered that was what was needed for Seven Hearts.

6 Technically asking for an unusual lead, but containing an element of insurance.

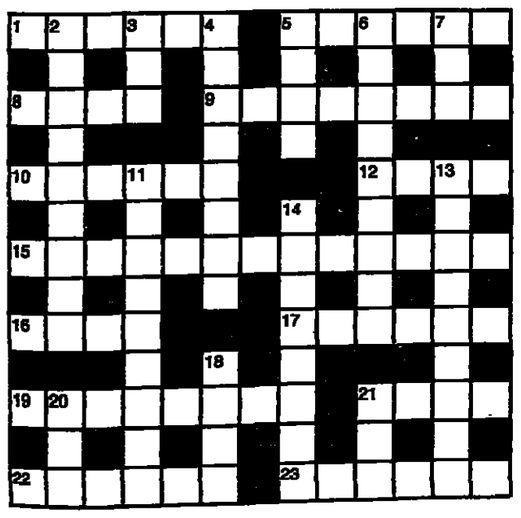
West obediently led a club which East ruffed. West must have hoped that he would also score his king of hearts, but East laid down the ace of hearts at trick two. I've never seen a Polish bridge player blush, but East might have succumbed on this occasion.

Let me remind you again, this was the bidding and play in the final of a World Championship. It is a good illustration of what Hamman said in an interview in *The Times* a few weeks ago: "The best play terribly and the rest play worse."

COMPETITION RESULT

THE prize of a bottle of IG Index champagne for naming the new suit combinations when the diamonds are coloured green and the clubs blue goes to Hugh Gammans from Lingfield, Surrey. He won the draw from the several entries to suggest "outer" for the old blacks, and "inner" for the old reds.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 411

ACROSS
1 Fairy King (6)
5 Comfort in distress (6)
8 Achievement (4)
9 Tramp (8)
10 Plant-property book (6)
12 Yellow of egg (4)
15 Desperately unable to think (2,4,4,3)
16 Medicinal substance (4)
17 Blow away (6)
19 In discomfort (after walk) (8)
21 Polish; aficionado (4)
22 Noun category (grammar) (6)
23 Depressive donkey *(Pooh)* (6)

DOWN
2 Yeoman Warder (9)
3 Depression; habitual pattern (3)
4 Fiction writer (8)
5 Express longing, exasperation (4)
6 Pushers of causes, interests (9)
7 Study; trick (3)
11 Overtaken by darkness (9)
13 Ardently desired (6,3)
14 The imagination (5,3)
18 Darken menacingly (4)
20 Be in debt (3)
21 Purchase (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 410

ACROSS: 1 Abacus 5 Tack 8 Solo 9 Cliveden 10 Misspell 11 Sash 12 Pelvis 14 Menace 16 Dais 18 Turncoat 20 Gomorrah 21 Able 22 Kris 23 Lessen
DOWN: 2 Bromide 3 Cross 4 Success story 5 Treason 6 Cress 7 Field Marshal 13 Viscous 15 Charlie 17 Amour 19 Crass

TIMES PUBLICATIONS: **The Times Guides**: English Style and Usage (HB) £8.99. International Finance, Japan, Nations of the World, Middle East, Good University Guide 1994-5, Single European Market £9.99 each. Peoples of Europe (HB) £16.99. European Parliament - June 1994 (HB) £26. NEW The Times Guide to the New British State £17.99. **The Times Maps**: The World Times Guide to the New British State £17.99, (folded) 45"x30" £5.99. Miscellaneous: (Wall Map laminated) 62"x40" £15.99, (folded) 45"x30" £5.99. The Times The Times Night Sky 1995 £4.50. The Times 1000 1995 (HB) £33.50. The Times Concise Atlas of the Bible (HB) £13.99 (reduced from £15.99). **The Sunday Times** Book of Answers £4.50. Book of Brainteasers £5.49. Prices include P&P (UK). Cheques with order payable to **Akom Ltd** 51 Manor Lane, London, SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel. 0181 852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

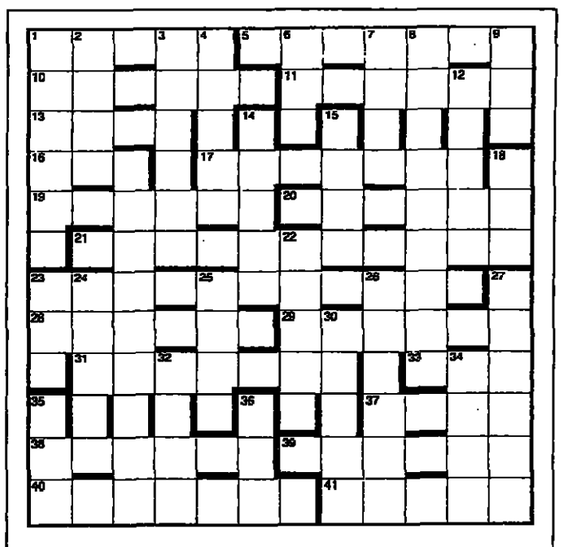
THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No 3295: A Short Tale by Mr Lemon

NINE clues are quotational allusions to questions posed by one of the unclued lights to the other. The remaining clues each contain a misprint of one letter in the definition part, the correct letters in clue order should assist the solver. The unclued lights (one of two words) are depicted in their final condition. Chambers (1993) is recommended, and contains the one abbreviation used in the grid.

ACROSS
5. On the King's kitchen door (7)
10. Prepare dummy like this and succeed in consequence (6)
11. Positive about former mete (6)
13. Intertwine turning round like a bell (4)
16. As cell is shut at last ring twice (3)
17. He puts the slops right concerning disguise (7)
19. Extreme folly not having account that is coin effective in Scotland (6)
20. To break sink - screw up with nut at first then pull (6)
21. A bag tied round with string (11)
23. And for James Bond, perhaps, PE ladies run amok (11)
28. Proceed to get soft gloss (6)
29. Zany books have robust jacket (6)
31. No time to support new fern that grows abundantly in tilled places (7)
33. Model kinky bits, dear (3)
37. Destroy stunted sons (4)
38. Caribbean cricketers take in bird - send another nine (6)
39. A stone in his throat (6)
40. As many red herrings as grow in the wood (7)
41. You cannot gather a bowl full (5)

DOWN.
1. Will bite you (6)
2. Final failure to match freshwater molluscs with gulls (4)
3. African grabs boot, we hear, and classy jade (6)
4. In drawer's one mammal that prefers light (5)
6. Risks instilling us with a bit of pride (3)
7. They were the very bonniest swine (4)
8. Shad's oil and fat spilt in river (9)
9. Girl ignoring one's works written using sand (3)
12. Cautious little girl fits into a continental clime quickly (5)
14. Record in letter shows Shakespeare had spot on dick (5)
15. He comes roaring up the land (4)
18. A white counterpane round his neck (3)
22. American heir is one introducing stringers (5)
23. Unfortunately Gus excites hare (3)
24. The French follow superior person who's high in bank (5)
25. Mend what sounds like a badly damaged ship (4)
26. Way, perhaps, to blow up mines, with very little explosion 6)
27. Scots cattle eating half heartedly seek out plant with a flat toe (6)
30. Crass types shank badly (5)
32. Making all those inside relaxed (4)
34. Play bricks loaded at first on large floating vessel (4)
35. Stan for instance is a marine (3)
36. Chain blind pirate (3)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3295

NAME

ADDRESS

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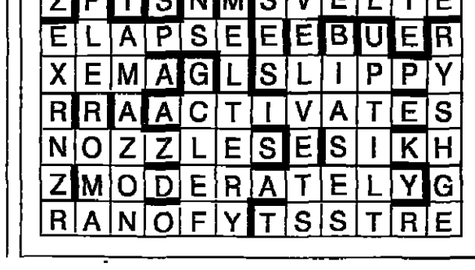
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PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above, to The Listener Crossword 3295, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, March 16.



Solution and notes to No 3292: 65 by Caper

The first 25 clues have superfluous words which are the initials of the numbers between one and twenty-five in an order of a magic square, filled in from left to right, in which all rows, columns, diagonals add up to 65. The last 11 clues have superfluous words that spell out MAGIC SQUARE.

These 25 numbers are then replaced by A=1, B=2 etc to form the playfair square. As O can only be One, TO only twenty-one, the square can be constructed. Also KNAVES has AV (1,21) and so knowing 21 down will give you the position of I3(N). Etc.

A	G	N	T	Z
O	U	V	B	H
W	C	I	P	Q
K	L	R	X	D
S	Y	E	F	M

1	7	13	19	25
14	20	21	2	8
22	3	9	15	16
10	11	17	23	4
18	24	5	6	12

The winner was A.J. Sobey, of Grayshott, Hindhead, Surrey. The runners-up were D. Waller, of Rayleigh, Essex and Roger Naylor, of Bradford, West Yorkshire.

11 million.



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Investment Trust Review
1st since launch in 1994
1st since launch in 1994
1st since launch in 1994
Schroder UK Equity
Schroder Japanese Smaller Cos
Schroder UK Enterprise
Schroder US Smaller Cos

5.00pm Awake on the Wildside (80991) 6.30 The QVC is the home shopping channel (4284438) 18.55 Angel At My Table (83772235)
7.00am Nickelfrel (4057877) 7.15 Pee Wee's
5.00pm Voyage Of Dreams (4028167) 4.00 Sky Travel

Schroder UK Equity	1st since launch in 1972*
Schroder Tokyo	1st since launch in 1981
Schroder Japanese Sm. Cos.	1st since launch in 1984
Schroder UK Enterprise	1st since launch in 1988
Schroder US Smaller Cos.	1st since launch in 1990
Schroder	

The funds by which others are judged.

Such unit trust performance will raise few eyebrows in informed circles.

After all, a reputation such as Schroders' cannot be built by merely providing impressive short term results. The truth is, Schroders have consistently delivered outstanding performance for many years.

Nor is it an achievement that has gone unnoticed. We now have over £6 billion under management** in unit trusts from those who already know about our track record.

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Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Tel. No. _____

*Source: Micropal buying price to selling price position in relevant sector with net income reinvested to 20.02.95, 5 year figures from 01.02.90. Schroder UK Equity Fund since 03.01.72 (first date recorded on Micropal) 1st out of 13 and over 5 years 2nd out of 84. Schroder Tokyo Fund since 02.03.81 1st out of 11 and over 5 years 8th out of 71. Schroder Japanese Smaller Companies Fund since 01.02.84 1st out of 26 and over 5 years 6th out of 71. Schroder UK Enterprise Fund since 01.08.88 1st out of 106 and over 5 years 2nd out of 121. Schroder US Smaller Companies Fund since 01.03.90 1st out of 105.

**Source: Investment Intelligence at 01.02.95.

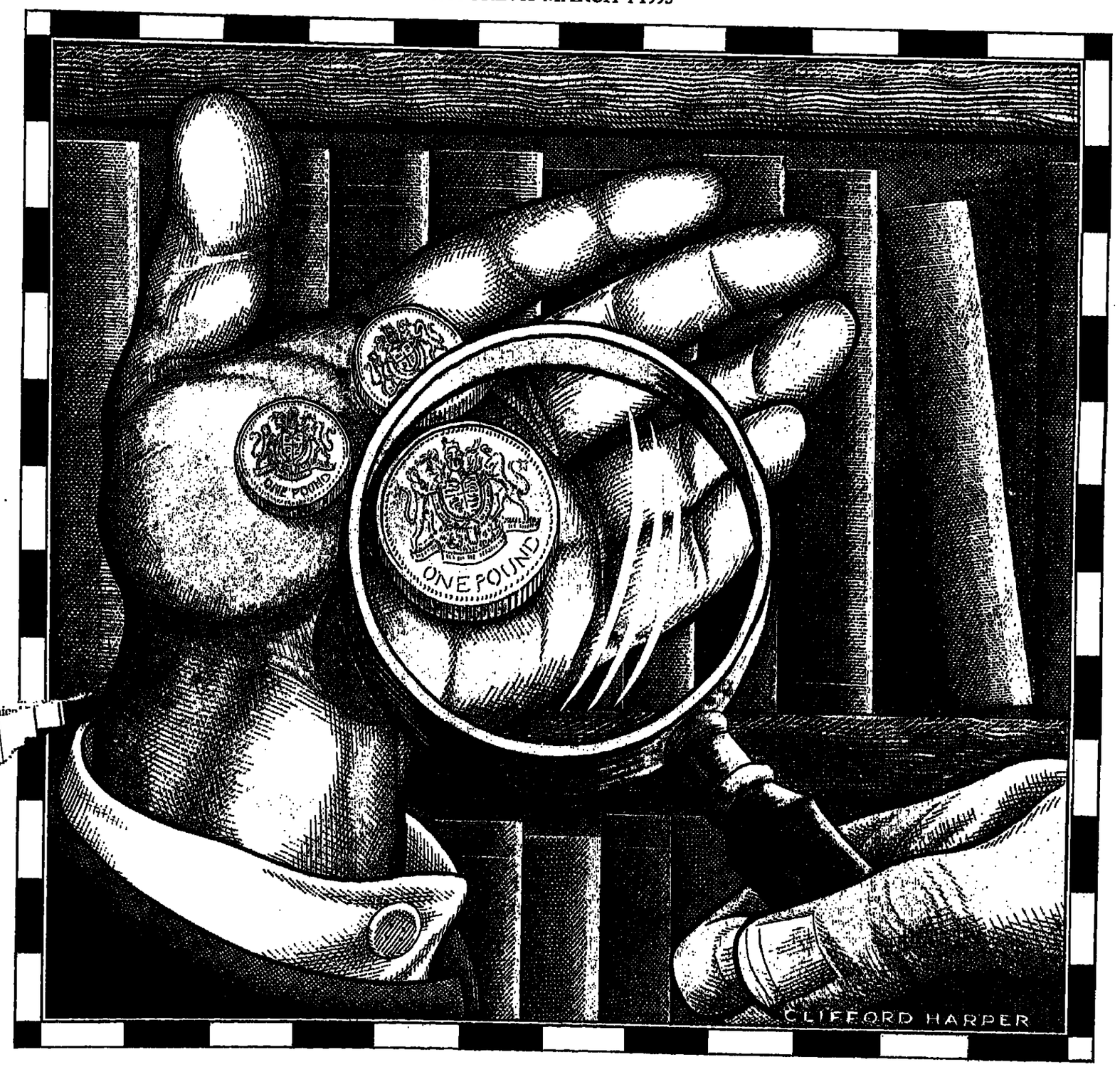
Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up and the investor may not get back the amount originally invested.

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THE TIMES MONEY GUIDE 3

Investment and Unit Trust Review

SATURDAY MARCH 4 1995



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"For Peps M&G now offers a growth as well as an income-oriented fund of funds, both with a diminishing exit charge instead of an initial charge. Together they offer first-time investors a well-diversified, trouble-free, tax-efficient choice."

Money Observer, January 1995

ACT BEFORE 5TH APRIL



Where the experts would go for growth

Anne Ashworth asks three financial gurus which trusts offer the best chance of increasing capital

The term "growth trust", a favourite phrase of financial marketing men, is very often a misnomer. Despite initial promises, too many trusts fail to prosper. We asked three leading fee-based financial advisers to pick trusts with potential for long term growth.

James Higgins, of Chamberlain de Broe: "It's my view that the turmoil in the world equity markets could continue for some time. Further US (and possibly UK) interest rate increases are in the pipeline and I confess to feeling generally quite nervous of equities. I am also against the kind of promises that investment advertising tends to make, which raise unrealistic expectations.

"All this means that I am inclined to go for a high level of safety and a very secure, if not exciting, return. The zero dividend preference shares in the TR Technology trust offer, if you hold them until the trust is wound up, a fully-covered redemption yield of around 9 per cent per annum over the next three years.

"In plain English, the trust winds up in April 1998 and the shares are due to be redeemed at 313p each. At present, they can be bought for around 237p each. The trust already has more than enough assets to meet this redemption price so it requires no growth whatsoever to offer a very satisfactory 9 per cent per annum return.

"In fact, the trust can actually afford to lose around 8 per cent per annum before this price is threatened. The shares are relatively cheap to buy. The stockbroker's commission should be around 1.5 per cent."

Richard Boyton, of Boyton Financial Services: "I am particularly enthusiastic about the UK market this year, as I expect our economy to grow and inflation to stay subdued. This should benefit the capital shares of split capital trusts which I expect to offer particularly attractive returns. My selections, which all show potential for recovery, would be General Consolidated, Murray Split Capital and St Davids, but above all Yeoman Capital. This trust has shown considerable resilience to falls in the market over the past year.

"Any capital growth in these shares will be tax-free for those who do not make full use of their capital gains tax allowance, £5,800 in the current tax year and £6,000 from April.

"Those who have already used up their capital gains allowance should consider putting their shares into a self-select personal equity plan (Pep) sheltering any gain from tax."

James Martineau, of Morton-Wilson: "My choices for long term growth would be two unit trust with broad remits: Schroder UK Enterprise, a consistently strong performer and Perpetual's International Emerging Companies. I like the fact that the Schroder trust is not confined to blue chip names. It can invest in any size of company, allowing the managers to take advantage of any good opportunities that come their way. Currently slightly more than 10 per cent of the fund is invested in engineering companies, with around 8 per cent each in banks and oil exploration and production.

"The managers of the Perpetual trust also have a wide brief. Despite the trust's name, it is not restricted to emerging markets and can invest worldwide in small-to-medium companies. Currently the trust has 17 per cent of its assets in the USA, the same amount in Japan and 14 per cent in the UK."

BRIEFINGS

MOST of the personal equity plans sold between now and the end of the tax year, on April 5, will be based on investment or unit trusts. Close to 1,000 of these so-called "Managed Peps" are now on sale. If you want to compare terms before investing, read the Chase de Vere Pep Guide, price £12.95 (freephone 0800 526082) which sets out details of charges, annual management fees and past performance.

■ If you need guidance through the selection maze, you can follow the best-buy lists of managed Peps prepared by analysts such as Allenbridge (0800 339999), BESt Investment (0171-312 0100) and the David Aaron Partnership (01908 281544).

Save £285 on your next PEP.

Many companies have an initial charge of 5% of the contribution on Personal Equity Plans (PEPs). That's a hefty £300 if you decide to invest the £6,000 maximum.

The Equitable PEP, on the other hand, has an initial charge of just ½% - £15 on an investment of £6,000 - and this saving of £285 would be invested for you right from the word 'go'.

This makes The Equitable PEP - a tax-free savings plan - an effective way to ease yourself into the stock market, and add a little extra 'pep' to your savings.

Furthermore, you have the choice of taking income from the plan in cash or having it automatically reinvested in the plan. Whichever you decide, the plan is entirely free of income and capital gains tax.

Remember that the value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. The information above is based on current legislation which can change in the future.

If you would like details, by post and by telephone, on The Equitable PEP, contact Equitable Unit Trust Managers on Aylesbury (01296) 26226 or send off the coupon below.

How much of your £6,000 investment is removed by initial charges before it gets off the starting blocks?

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INITIAL CHARGES 5%	INITIAL CHARGES 2%	INITIAL CHARGES ½%

The Equitable PEP is a unit trust Personal Equity Plan, with all the attendant tax advantages. The tax-free nature of the plan, combined with the simplicity of regular savings makes it an excellent choice for accumulating a lump sum. If you already have a capital sum to invest, that's fine too.

Flexibility

Flexibility is the keynote of the plan, so that you are not committed to paying identical contributions each month.

And a choice of unit trusts means that you can match your Equitable PEP to your fundamental investment philosophy whether that favours capital growth, income, or a combination of the two.

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YOU CAN ALSO COUNT ON OUR ADVICE SCOTTISH WIDOWS

Robert Miller is told that investors can get the best of both worlds from investment trust units

The 'ultimate' way of spreading risk

If you really want to achieve the ultimate spread of risk in stock market terms you can put your money in a unit trust which in turn invests in investment trusts.

The concept has proved popular enough for the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif) to have introduced a special category, Investment Trust Units, under which there are now 14 trusts listed from groups such as Gartmore, M&G, Save & Prosper, Equitable, Exeter and Stewart Ivory.

The catch is that you will almost inevitably face an element of double charging. As well as the unit trust's annual charge of 1-1.5 per cent, the underlying investment trusts in which they invest will also have an annual fee.

The unit trust manager cannot negotiate a discount for investing in two or three investment trusts from the same group because each investment trust is an individual publicly listed company with shares trading on the stock market. To offer a special deal to an individual unit trust manager would be a breach of the Stock Exchange rules.

David Hume, a director of Stewart Ivory, which runs a £12 million Stewart Ivory Investment Trust unit trust, says there are savings to be made in other ways which could offset the higher charging structure. For example, he points out that trusts in the Investment Trust Units sector offer an exposure to the popular area of investment trust without incurring any dealing charges. Stewart Ivory's unit trust has 27 investment trusts in its portfolio.

As a qualifying Pep at least 50 per cent of the underlying investments are UK and European trusts but it does have an exposure to world markets through Gartmore Emerging Pacific and Baillie Gifford's Shin Nippon.

Mr Hume adds: "The investment trust units sector provides investors with the best of both worlds and it also saves having to make critical decisions on when to switch between different investment trusts." Patrick Harrington, the manager of M&G's Fund of Investment Trusts, admits there is undoubtedly an element of double charging in these unit trusts but adds that he is buying the shares of each trust at a discount to the underlying assets in its portfolio. This immediately covers some of the additional charges. M&G's unit trust invests in 60 investment trusts achieving what Mr Harrington describes as "the ultimate spread of risk".

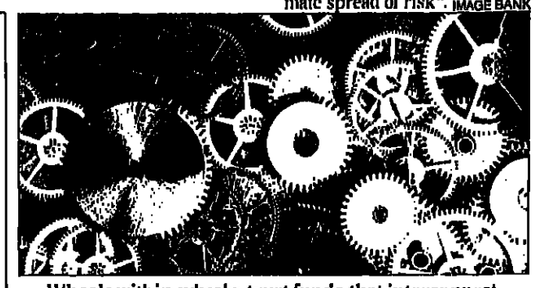


IMAGE BANK

Wheels within wheels: trust funds that interconnect

THE TIMES

Win a £6,000 PEP

A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and today *The Times*, in association with TSB Bank, offers you the third of four opportunities to win a PEP worth £6,000.



Answer the questions below, and collect four of the six PEP tokens which will appear until next Friday, and you could win an investment in your choice of three TSB unit trusts:

- The TSB UK Income Fund aims to provide a high-income return with the potential for some capital growth over the longer term, from investments in Britain;
- The TSB UK Growth Fund invests in a wide range of UK ordinary shares and aims for long-term capital growth;
- The TSB Worldwide Growth Fund aims for long-term capital growth from a broad spread of international securities, with at least half of the fund invested in Europe.

These three funds, which were launched in November 1994, have all ranked in the top quartile of their particular unit trust sectors over the past three months.* Because of the regulations governing PEPs, winners will receive a holding in the unit trust of their choice. Provided they are eligible, they will be able to convert this to a PEP at no cost either immediately or, if they have already taken out a PEP this year, after the end of the current financial year.

A PEP investment is an excellent home for long-term savings, with all income and capital growth exempt from both income tax and capital gains tax. Readers can obtain full details of TSB PEPs at their nearest TSB Bank branch.

How to enter

Collect four of the six tokens which will be appearing over the next week and send them on a postcard with the answer to today's questions plus the tie-breaker by March 15, 1995 to: *The Times* Win a PEP Competition, Week 3, 16 Whitefriars Street, EC88 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income not reinvested.

The questions

1) In which year were PEPs introduced by the Chancellor in his Budget?

2) What is the name of the Governor of the Bank of England?

Tie-breaker: in no more than 15 words, explain why you would like to win a £6,000 TSB Personal Equity Plan.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1) Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.
2) The competition is open to individuals aged 18 and over who are UK residents.
3) The competition is not open to employees of TSB or Times Newspapers Ltd or their families.
4) The winner of this weekly competition will be announced shortly after the closing date of March 15.
5) There will be one winner for each of the weekly competitions and this will be the entrant who has correctly answered the questions and, in the opinion of the judges, has completed the tie-breaker in the most apt and original way. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into.
6) Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery. Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries lost or delayed in the post.
7) Winners will be notified by post within 14 days of judging. Details of the winning entry will be available by sending an SAE to the promotional address after the end of the competition.
8) Prizes will be in the form of £6,000 in one of the following unit trusts: UK Growth, UK Income, or Worldwide Growth Fund. If eligible, the winner can choose to convert the investment into the TSB Tax Free Savings Plan, TSB's Personal Equity Plan, free of charge. There is no cash alternative.
9) The promoter is TSB plc, Victoria House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BZ. Registered in England and Wales, number 108968.

THE TIMES
Third week
PEP
Token 1
TSB

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"THE GUIDE TO CORPORATE BONDS, AND OTHER FIXED INTEREST SECURITIES"

* SHOULD YOU BUY ?
* WHICH TYPE ?
* CAN THEY GIVE 10% ?
* WHAT ARE THEY ?
* HOW SECURE ?
* WHICH COMPANY ?

This guide is an excellent reference manual, explaining Corporate Bonds, Convertibles, Preference Shares, Company Loan Stock and other fixed interest investments. It includes an explanation of terminology and type of investors suited to such investments.
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How to spot the difference



ANNE ASHWORTH

For those who already know the difference between an investment trust and a unit trust, two of the most popular investments of our age and possibly the least well understood, the following is optional. Turn the pages to find out even more.

Others start here. An investment trust is a company whose sole purpose is to invest in the shares of other companies, large or small, UK or overseas, depending on the aims set out in the trust deed. Investment trust shares are quoted on the Stock Exchange and bought and sold through stockbrokers. Although unit trusts also buy shares in companies (again depending on the dictate of the trust deed), they are not themselves quoted. The units in the trust are marketed, priced and bought and sold by the unit trust management company.

The major difference between the two lies in their charges. The entrance fee on a unit trust may still be around 5 per cent of your initial investment, although charges are being reduced and discounting is widespread. Read on for more information on trusts that can help boost your income, pay school fees and even salve your conscience.

Placing your faith in trusts

A **Autif**, the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds, advises on unit trusts. Its investment counterpart is the Association of Investment Trust Companies. Autif, 65 Kingsway, London WC2B 6TD (0181-207 1361). AITC, Durrant House, 8-13 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4YY (0171-588 5347).

B **Bonds** — a favourite among investors in mutual funds (American unit trusts). Soon, new-style unit trust personal equity plans, (Peps), available from the late spring, will invest in fixed-interest corporate bonds, convertibles and preference shares.

C **Children** are particularly suitable candidates for monthly savings schemes (see "M" below).

D **Discounts** — once the unique selling proposition of investment trusts. When a trust stands at a discount, its shares trade below its net asset value, making it a bargain. But lately discounts have narrowed.

E **Ethical** — those who recycle household rubbish and fit catalytic converters also want squeaky clean investments. Both investment and unit trust groups offer ethical funds. See page 13.

F **Foreign** & Colonial's investment trust is the oldest of its type, reaching its 127th birthday this year. At £1.4 billion, it was also the biggest until last year's flotation of the venture capital group 3i.

G **Growth** is the dream of most investors and the promise of fund managers who promote their wares. For a selection of growth funds, recommended by leading financial advisers, see page 15.

H **Homebuyers**, tiring of the uncertainties of the endowment are turning to Peps, investing in either investment or unit trusts to repay their loans. On pages 8-9, we assess which method stands the best chance of clearing your mortgage in full.

I **Income** promises have encouraged many investors to turn to investment and unit trusts. However, a higher income may only be available at the expense of your capital. (See pages 4-5)

J **Japan** is accessible to small investors via investment and unit trusts. But the cautious limit Tokyo exposure to 10 per cent.

K **Kleinwort** Benson and Mercury Asset Management both launched European Privatisation investment trusts in 1994, designed to benefit from the international state sell-off bonanza.

L **Lower charges** have always been a key attraction of the investment trust. Unit trusts, by contrast, can be relatively expensive, charging an initial 5-6 per cent. But competition is forcing unit trust charges lower.

M **Monthly savings** plans allow you to invest in a trust, even if you can only spare £20 a month. Investment trust savings plans are listed in the AITC's Monthly Information Service. The annual subscription is £28 but the first 100 *Times* readers to write to AITC (see above) can get the service free for one year. Closing date March 6. Mark your envelope MIS/*Times* offer.

N **Non-taxpayers**, the 15 million wives, children and pensioners whose incomes are below the tax thresholds can reclaim the tax deducted from payouts from investment and unit trusts.

O **Open-ended** investment companies (OEICs) are unit trusts repackaged for the European market. They provide the single-price characteristic of investment trusts but, as with unit trusts, this reflects the value of underlying assets. Already on sale from the Dublin and Luxembourg.

P **Peps**, devised to encourage the share buying habit, have instead boosted the sales of investment and unit trusts. You may invest up to £6,000 in a qualifying fund. The trend towards lower Pep charges means that their tax concessions will not so easily be wiped out.

Q **Qualifying** funds are those investment and unit trusts which have at least 50 per cent of their holdings in the UK, or other countries of the European Union. Your full £6,000 annual Pep allowance can be invested in this type of trust.

R **Retirement** should be leisured, not fraught with financial worries. Investment-trust based pensions are gaining in popularity in response to the high charges on traditional insurance company pension plans (see page 12). Making the right choice of growth trusts (see page 15) should help.

S **Shares** in an investment trust, unlike units in a unit trust, are priced by the market. If there are no buyers, the price of the shares, will fall to a discount, below the value of the trust's assets, regardless of their value.

T **Trustees** look after your interests, ensuring that the trust's managers abide by the terms of the trust deed which sets out the investment aims. All investments are held in the trustees' name. Large specialist departments at banks are usually enlisted to undertake this role.

U **Units** in unit trusts have two prices: the offer price at which you buy the unit when you invest in the trust, and the bid price which you receive if you sell. The difference between the two is the spread which can range from 0-7 per cent. The prices, set by the managers, reflect the value of the trust's assets.

V **Venture capital** investment trusts invest in rising companies with assets of less than £10 million. Tax breaks for investors willing to put their money at risk.

W **Warrants** give you the right to buy shares in an investment trust at a set price, or before a specific date. For the adventurous only. Find out why on page 7.

X **X-rated** trusts include emerging market trusts concentrating on an individual country. Another sector for those investors with nerves of steel. See page 6.

Y **Yields** show the return you are receiving on the capital you have invested. The yield on a unit trust is calculated by dividing the distribution per unit by the unit price. You then multiply by 100 to get a percentage. Unit trust yields are quoted gross, before tax is deducted.

Z **Zero** dividend preference shares, or "zeros" are a species of split capital investment trust share which offer capital growth, but no income. Useful, in series, for school fees. See page 10.



THE ADVERTISING ARCHIVES

Counting the pennies: finding the right trust can boost your income, or your capital

A new investment opportunity for investors requiring a high and stable income.

10% INCOME PAID TO THE END OF THE FIRST YEAR

Call free on ☎ 0800 212 274 (24hrs) or return the coupon to GT Unit Managers Ltd., Client Services Dept., FREEPOST, London EC2B 2DL. T4/MM

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The case for focusing on income

Funds that offer high income have become increasingly popular with private investors. **Helen Pridham** reports

If you want your capital to earn extra income, unit trusts have much to offer. Over the past two years, unit trusts specialising in earning income have proved to be the biggest attraction among all unit trusts; last year they were at the top of the industry's private investor best-selling chart, bringing in total net new investment of more than £1.3 billion.

This new-found popularity has had as much to do with low interest rates as with investors suddenly recognising the intrinsic merits of unit trusts. Yields of 4-10 per cent on investments starting at only £500 compared very favourably with the returns on building society accounts, tempting many people to switch. There was also the extra benefit that, when bought through a personal equity plan, the income from a unit trust can be obtained tax free.

Investors face a difficult choice, however, when selecting an income fund. Although there are many identical sounding income trusts offered by a wide range of companies, there are distinct differences between them, and it is crucial that investors check a fund's investment policy and track record so they have a rough idea of what to expect in the future.

UK equity income funds comprise the largest sector. They invest mainly in high yielding UK shares and pass on the dividends they receive to investors on a half-yearly or quarterly basis. There are currently 113 of these funds worth a total of more than £11 billion.

Another fast-growing income category is UK balanced funds, which include 56 trusts valued at nearly £3 billion. They combine share investments with holdings of fixed interest securities or derivatives to boost yields.

Then there are the gilt and fixed interest funds, currently amounting to £1.5 billion, which invest in government securities and corporate bonds for maximum income. The number of these funds is expected to grow rapidly in the coming months when the new corporate bond Peps get the go-ahead from the Inland Revenue.

So how should you choose from this wide range of unit trusts? The answer depends partly on your need for income and partly on timescale. While a high yielding unit trust with a fixed interest content may be attractive in the short term, it is unlikely to deliver the long-term growth in income and capital for which lower yielding equity trusts are renowned.

Peter Edwards, of Premier Unit Trust Brokers in Bristol, has been measuring the growth of income and capital from income funds for the past 19 years. He picks the winners and losers in terms of best income and capital growth over the previous five years.

The gap in returns is considerable. This year's survey of the top and bottom 12 funds showed dividend growth over five years averaged, respectively, 22 per cent and 20 per cent, while capital growth averaged 56 per cent and 10 per cent in the same period.

Mr Edwards comments: "One predictable factor in the poor total return is the relatively high yield. Time and again in previous studies, we have noted how the poorer funds at the bottom have the higher yields. There is no magic in this; it is an accepted fact in investment management. You can't have your cake and eat it too."

He is somewhat sceptical, therefore, of the long term returns that income investors will gain from the new breed of corporate bond funds. "What's the good of a higher-than-average yield initial dividend cheque, if it doesn't get fatter every year?" he asks.

Even investment managers with lower yielding unit trusts have found it difficult to give investors a steadily rising income year on year, during a period when the recession took its toll on company profits and led many to prune back their dividends.

Last year, in spite of the better news on dividends, another monitoring exercise carried out by Income Fund Analysis found



Heart's ease: Geoffrey Clayton

TOP 12 INCOME FUNDS

Fund	Dividend growth %	Total return %	Yield %
Jupiter Income	29	67	4.05
Morgan Gren UK Eq Inc	24	60	3.23
Perpetual High Income	15	86	4.39
Credit Suisse Income	58	56	4.95
Schroder Income	35	51	4.23
Newton Income	17	68	3.51
GT Income	11	46	4.74
N&P Higher Income	23	65	5.14
Perpetual Income	13	42	3.40
M&G Dividend	28	38	4.72
Baillie Gifford Convertible	28	46	5.57
Prolific High Income	36	41	3.71

Total return: Capital Gross over 5yrs to 1.1.95. (Growth + net income). Yield: over 5 yrs to 1.1.95, 1.2.95

Source: Premier Unit Trust Brokers

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For investors who worry how their money is used, **Liz Dolan** reports on the growing sector of ethical funds

Profits with principles

Ethical and environmentally friendly investment links peace of mind with profits for kind-hearted investors and stern moralists alike.

Funds in this category normally avoid proscribed areas, such as the manufacture of weapons, tobacco and alcoholic beverages and companies that do business with oppressive regimes. In addition, many refuse to invest in environmentally threatening activities such as chemicals or landfill sites.

Others are not content simply to avoid dodgy sectors, but actively seek out ventures that operate in a positively green and/or socially responsible way.

The first ethical unit trust was Friends Provident's Stewardship trust, launched in 1984 and still going strong. Peter Silvester, investment director, says: "There was no ethical sector as such, and we weren't particularly optimistic. We thought we might attract £5 million in the first year. In fact, we pulled double that amount in the first 15 months."

The company has since added two more unit trusts, an investment trust and a pension fund to the list. There are now 18 ethical unit trusts operating in a £15 billion sector including Eagle Star Environmental Opportunities, CIS (Co-operative Insurance Services) Environmental, Jupiter Ecology, Scottish Equitable Ethical, Acorn Ethical, NM Conscience and Clerical Medical Evergreen.

Investment trusts have been much slower to embrace this area, with only Commercial Union, Jupiter International and Friends Provident prepared to test the water so far.

Before investing, always make sure that the underlying aims of your chosen trust are in line with your own. This is not always as simple as it sounds. Take vivisection. Do you fundamentally disagree with the whole concept, or are you willing to accept the use of animals for medical research?

Or consider the dilemma posed by the investment policy of the most recent addition to the ethical unit trust sector, Henderson Touche Remnant's Ethical trust. According to Kate Murphy, the fund manager: "We won't invest in alcohol producers, but we may want to include supermarkets which almost inevitably will have an alcohol section."

Find out how investment decisions are made. Some trusts allow fund managers free rein, while others have an advisory committee or, like Clerical Medical's Evergreen, include investors in the decision making.

Watch out for changes in the investment mix. The Stewardship trust used to hold shares in Ranks Hovis McDougalls, for instance, but sold out when RHM was bought by Tomkins, owner of Smith & Wesson, the gunmaker.

Ethical investment is not likely to make your fortune. But at least you can feel slightly less guilty than you may otherwise have done the next time British-made weapons are used by an oppressive regime to slaughter insurgents, or you are faced with pictures of laboratory-tortured animals or polluted rivers.



No tanks: weapons are out for ethical funds

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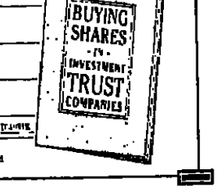
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New kids on the pension block

Caroline Merrell examines pension plans that rely on investment trusts

The Scottish group Ivory & Sime is poised to join the growing band of fund managers offering personal pensions based on investment trusts. These new-style pension schemes have developed amid controversy over charges on personal pension plans and their impact on final returns.

The schemes' attraction is enhanced by new rules forcing insurance companies to make clear what percentage of pension premium disappears in administrative fees and commission.

Last year, a *Money Management* survey ranked Foreign & Colonial, the first fund management group to offer an investment trust pension, the lowest-cost pension plan provider.

The Ivory & Sime investment trust pension, intended to be launched in the summer, is likely to offer two basic choices: to invest in a range of Ivory & Sime's nine investment trusts, or in a much wider portfolio of funds that will include other companies' investment trusts. This plan will be sold through independent financial advisers.

Although Foreign & Colonial will soon deal through IFAs, it has so far operated on an execution-only basis, offering no advice beyond a customer helpline. Investors in this plan can choose between the Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust, holding a wide range of shares in companies around the world; the F&C Income and Growth Trust, backing UK blue chip companies; and the F&C Emerging Markets Trust, investing for growth in developing countries. For those approaching retirement, there is a cash fund to reduce exposure to equity markets.

Premiums can be paid monthly or annually. Charges on the plan are £100 initially, plus £50 a year. Foreign & Colonial also charges an annual fund management fee of 0.5 per cent per year. Switching between funds costs £15.

The version of the plan to be sold via financial advisers will offer a broader range of investment trusts in riskier markets, including a Latin-American trust and a US smaller companies trust. Anyone who uses this route will have to pay either commission or a fee to the adviser. It will be up to the adviser to make sure that the plan moves into lower-risk markets or cash just prior to retirement. Mr Walton says: "We have for the first time begun to take transfers into the IFA version of the plan."

Dunedin is another Scottish investment manager that offers a pension based on investment trusts. The pension, also sold on execution-only terms, has Classical and Selector options.

The first option will allow investment into two trusts — one buying shares in UK companies and another with international diversification. Dunedin will manage the investment split between the two.

The second option is aimed at the more sophisticated investor and will give the choice of investment in three more of Dunedin's investment trusts, including a Japanese trust, and a smaller companies trust. It will be up to the investor to monitor the performance of the plan and decide whether to switch their investment around.

Again, the plan has a £100 set-up charge and an annual charge of £50. The annual management charge on the plan is 1 per cent, double that on the Hypo Foreign & Colonial plan.

Charles Levett-Scrivener, of Towry Law, independent financial adviser, says: "Investment trust pensions do have the advantage of low cost. But there are a couple of wrinkles. Investment trusts do have the greater capacity for growth, but as they invest solely in shares, rather than in a spread of different investments, there is some risk."



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ROB HOWARTH

has found the extra income he got from Prolific "very useful"

How the doctor got a healthy return

When Dr Geoffrey Clayton invested £750 in Prolific High Income in March 1975, some months after its launch, he admits he did not really know what he was doing. He says: "I had been left a bit of money by an aunt and it was her financial adviser who recommended that I should put some of it into shares via a unit trust. He recommended this trust, and I followed his advice."

Dr Clayton, 66, a retired GP, who now runs Take Heart, his own consultancy, in Norwich advising company employees how to minimise their chances of heart disease, says he has found the income he has received from the trust over the years "very useful". It has increased tenfold since he first bought the trust, rising steadily from £40.67 in 1975 to £433.86 last year. "It was particularly helpful having some extra income when we were educating the children," he says.

What has pleased him most, though, is the rise in the value of his capital. His original investment is now worth £10,449. "It is nice to know I have it there to dip into if I need it," he says. He doesn't worry about stock market's ups and downs and remains philosophical about them.

"As long as you hang on and don't panic, it seems to come right again," he says. Apart from a dip in the value of the fund between 1989 and 1990 due to the onset of the recession, the capital growth of Prolific High Income has risen relatively smoothly year by year since its inception.

Dr Clayton admits that he considers himself a casual rather than a sophisticated investor, and feels that unit trusts take the hassle out of stock market investment. The arrangement leaves him to monitor people's blood pressure while someone else monitors his money.

HELEN PRIDHAM

that in a survey of 145 income unit trusts half had paid out less income in 1994 than in 1993.

On a five-year view there were only 15 funds that had maintained or increased their income distributions for each calendar year since 1990.

Since 1981, only two funds have managed to increase their income consistently — Kleinwort Benson High Yield and Prolific High Income. Two others — M&G Dividend and M&G Equity Income — have never cut their distributions, although some years the payout has stayed unchanged. Prolific High Income, which was launched 20 years ago, has increased income to investors each year. Mike Webb, sales and marketing director, says: "The secret of our success has been that the fund managers have not chosen shares with high yields, but shares in companies which they believe will achieve above average earnings growth and therefore pay out rising dividends in future."

This means that in spite of its name the fund has produced a lower than average yield for a fund of its type. It recently stood at 3.7 per cent.

GT Income, another solid performer, has a higher yield of 4.7 per cent. Like all these funds, its capital value has fallen over the past year, but in the longer term equity income funds often produce better capital returns than specialist capital growth funds.

Nick Train, GT's investment manager, explains how capital growth is achieved: "The reason is because shares with above average yields can be undervalued. I am always looking for those stocks where I believe the general market pessimism about their future is unjustified. When things start to come good, that company's share price moves up. As a result, the yield goes down and I then sell and look for a better prospect. With this sell discipline at work, the fund is continually getting a capital boost."

> Time and again, we've seen how the poorer funds have the higher yields

Both Mr Webb and Mr Train expect share dividends to rise this year by around 8 per cent, which should enable most fund managers to boost the income paid out to unit trust investors.

Mr Train acknowledges the attraction of the new corporate bond trusts for investors who need a high immediate income. Perhaps the best thing that such investors can do is to buy some of each type of fund and have a foot in both camps.

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In search of new horizons

Caroline Merrell on the chances of a resurgence in emergent markets

Dismal returns in emerging market funds last year could signal a golden opportunity for those who have not already invested.

Many emerging market fund managers believe that the hammering taken by the Latin American and Hong Kong markets could mean shares are available at a discount.

Templeton, an established emerging market fund manager, usually has about 20 per cent of its global emerging market funds in cash. It has been gradually reducing this exposure to 15 per cent over the past few weeks to take advantage of what it believes to be a buying opportunity. Ken Nicholson, Templeton marketing manager, says: "We are looking at places where people are selling. We are particularly interested in Hong Kong as a gateway to growth in China."

Last year, millions of pounds was poured into emerging market unit trusts and investment trusts. The argument was a simple one: the economies of the Far East, Latin America and Eastern Europe were set to grow at a much faster rate than the developed countries.

Many of the major fund managers launched trusts on the back of this expected growth. However, last year also graphically illustrated some of the risks involved. Two of the areas that appeared most promising — China and Mexico — fell dramatically over the year.

The fall in both these markets also had knock-on effects for their neighbours. The sudden devaluation of the Mexico peso hit the Brazilian, Chilean and Argentinian markets. Fears about China hit Hong Kong, which also fell sharply. Hong Kong was also affected by the rise in US interest rates.

For example, the Abtrust Latin American Unit Trust fell by 40 per cent over the year and Gartmore's emerging markets fund by about 50 per cent.

Many fund managers believe that it will take more than a year for the losses sustained during the devaluation crisis to be made up. Many are claiming that now would be a good time to invest.

The poor 1994 performance of emerging markets underlines the importance of choosing the right fund manager with a good long term track record. It also underlines the importance of taking a long-term view.

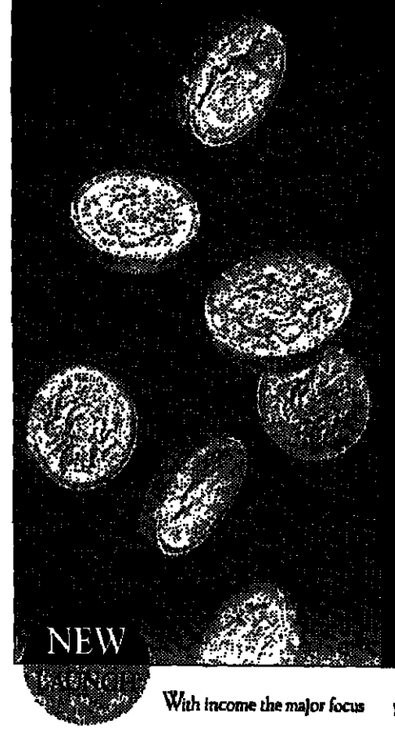
Fund Research, which analyses fund managers, says it is vital for anyone who wishes to invest in emerging markets to study the performance of the company's funds. In these types of trusts, it is also best to choose a fund that has the maximum amount of diversification.

For example, Perpetual's global emerging companies fund only fell about 20 per cent over the year, and Invesco global emerging markets fund fell about 30 per cent. Kleinwort Benson spreads the risk on its emerging market investment trust by putting only 10 per cent in any one market.

Last year's turmoil in the emerging markets begs the question, where are the best places to invest? Jean de Boille, emerging market strategist at Hypo Foreign & Colonial, says he expects the fastest grower in Latin America to be Peru. "This is a satellite market, but it has strong potential. Argentina could provide some strong growth, but it is currently carrying a high risk premium," he says.

Hypo Foreign & Colonial is also keen on India as a place to invest. Mr de Boille says: "In dollar terms, the market rose by 10 per cent last year. It was one of the few markets that rose at all last year. We expect that to continue over the next year."

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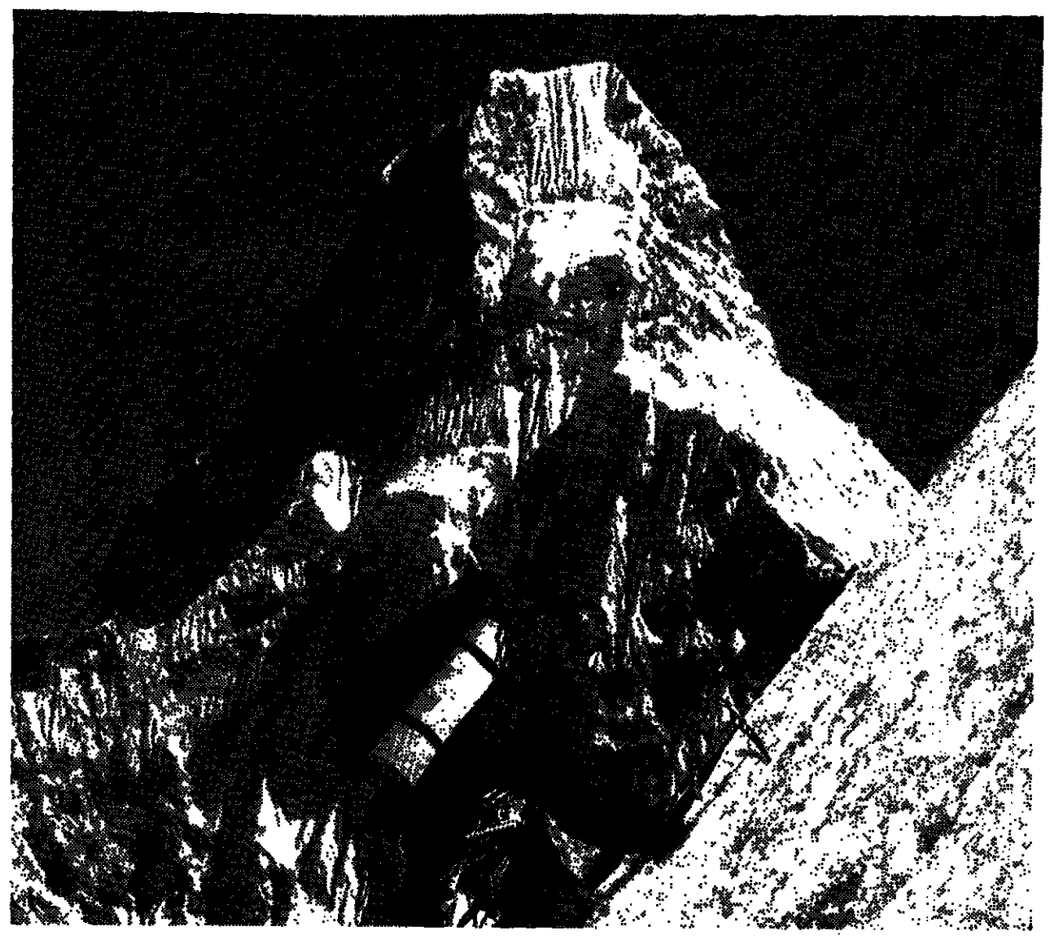
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Helen Pridham examines the funds with a share for every need

Trusts that work on the principle of divide and conquer

In recent years, most new investment trusts launched have been split capital trusts. The big difference from the conventional variety is that instead of offering one type of share, a split capital trust could have three or even four.

And instead of all investors having an equal entitlement to any income and capital growth generated by a trust's investments, each class of share is entitled to a different return.

Kean Seager, a financial adviser at Whitechurch Securities in Bristol, says: "The attraction of split capital trusts is that they enable you to pick out a share that can meet your investment needs quite precisely. So they can be used for quite specific applications such as school fees planning or providing a high retirement income."

Another unusual feature of these trusts is that they have a fixed life, seven to ten years, say, so that all shareholders' demands can be met by the end of that time. But investors should not be too concerned about the maturity dates. "Sometimes people think they are going to be locked in until the end of the trust's life," says Mr Seager. "This is not the case. Indeed, it often makes sense to sell early."

Split capital trusts were initially set up in the 1960s as a tax wheeze and while saving tax is no longer their *raison d'être*, they can still be highly tax-efficient investments. Returns on zero-dividend and capital shares are treated as capital gains and are tax-free, providing they fall within an investor's annual capital gains tax allowance. Income shares held in a personal equity plan enable you to maximise tax-free income.

One of the latest split capital trusts to arrive is Henderson Touche Remnant's Income & Growth. The trust consists of zero-dividend preference shares and income ordinary shares. James de Sausmarez, HTR managing director, believes the income shares will have particular appeal at present. He explains: "Many investors are looking for a high income at the moment, and the great advantage of a split capital trust is that it enables them to get an enhanced income from a straightforward portfolio of good quality shares."

Nevertheless, while the investment portfolios may be straightforward, the structure of the trusts can be relatively complicated and investors need to be sure they know what they are buying. Whichever type of share you buy, a key factor to look for is the "hurdle" rate; this shows how much the trust's investments must rise to ensure you get your share of the capital at the end of the trust's life. If the rate is a negative figure, this indicates how much the value of the portfolio could drop and still provide your due.



Class discrimination: zero-dividend shares, bought in series, can meet school fees

There are three main types of shares in a split capital trust:

■ **Zero-dividend preference shares:** No income is paid on "zeros". Instead, they have a fixed maturity price equivalent to a set growth rate on their initial issue price. Their price on the stock market generally rises as the term of the trust progresses. Zeros are regarded as the lowest-risk split capital share because they are normally the first share to be repaid. Zeros are ideally suited for retirement capital or, in series, for school fees.

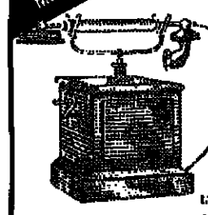
■ **Income shares:** Holders of these shares get all the income from a trust's investments even though they may have supplied, say, only half the capital. So they are getting in this case double their actual share of the income. This is why yields on these shares can reach 20 per cent. However, it is important to look at what capital comes back at maturity.

There are several different varieties of income shares. The first, and most common, have a redemption price that is the same as their issue price: you simply get back your original investment, assuming zero holders have been repaid. Annuity shares, however, may cost 100p but only provide you with a nominal repayment of 1p a share. These tend to have the highest yields, but should not be purchased without expert advice. A third type is the ordinary income share, which entitles you to any capital left at redemption after paying off other shareholders. So they are more like the shares of a conventional investment trust. Income shares are often recommended for retired people who have less need for capital growth.

■ **Capital Shares:** These shares are generally regarded as the most risky of the split capital shares. Their prices are very volatile, moving further up or down than the actual movements in value of the trust's assets. They are also at the end of the line for repayment. But they get all that is left in the kitty, so the gains can be substantial. These shares are only suitable for investors who do not need income and can accept above-average risks.

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TAX FREE INCOME & GROWTH

Keeping financial advice in the family

The need to generate extra income after a divorce spurred Anne Pepper, 59, a former nursing sister, to invest in 1988 in the income shares of River & Mercantile, the split capital investment trust. At the time, she bought £500 of shares and since she took early retirement, two years later, she has added to her holding, which is now worth about £10,000. The income provides a boost to her NHS pension. She holds the shares through a personal equity plan, so the income is tax free.

The first shares she bought cost 88p each and had a yield of about 6 per cent. They now stand at 109p, a capital gain of 24 per cent. The income has also risen from 7.6p per share to 12.3p, an increase of 60 per cent, which gives a current yield of 11.3 per cent.

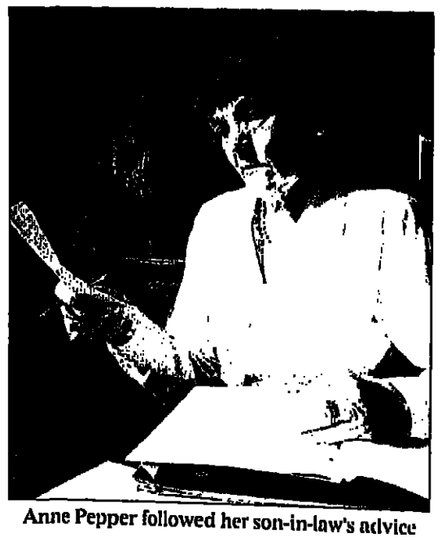
Although the income did go down slightly during the recession, it has now recovered to the level it was a few of years ago, and Mrs Pepper is hoping that it will continue to rise.

However, she says that she is actually much more interested in people than money and is happy to accept the recommendations of her financial adviser, Kean Seager, of Whitechurch Securities, who is also her son-in-law.

He says: "Advising your mother-in-law to put money into something must be the real test of your confidence in an investment." He points out that he expects to sell Mrs Pepper's shares before River & Mercantile reaches the end of its life in the year 2000, when the income shares are due to be redeemed at 100p, in order to preserve her capital gains.

Mr Seager has written a booklet on split capital trusts, which can be obtained free of charge by calling 0800 442266.

HELEN PRIDHAM



Anne Pepper followed her son-in-law's advice

For those seeking guaranteed excitement

Jill Insley describes the pleasures and pitfalls of investing in warrants

Adventurous investors who do not mind risking their money may find warrants offer a powerful cocktail of exhilaration and high potential returns.

Warrants are a type of security which entitles the investor to buy a share at a set price on or before a specific date in the future. This process is known as exercising a warrant.

Companies, including investment trust companies, issue warrants to raise additional money. More than 30 investment trusts have warrants in issue, and many new trusts are launched with warrants as an incentive to attract investors. Typically investors in new trusts will receive one free warrant for every five shares they buy, which can be converted on the payment of £1.

Warrants can be traded on the Stock Exchange from a few weeks after they are issued until their exercise date. If they reach that date without being exercised, however, they no longer entitle the investor to buy a share at a predetermined price and so become worthless.

The effect of the warrant is to enhance the return to the investor. Investment trust shares often fall from their offer price immediately after launch because some of the money invested — typically 4p in every pound — is used to cover costs. The issue of a free warrant offsets this fall by providing the investor with a choice of either selling it or using it later to buy further shares.

However, if the investment trust's shares are selling at a lower value than the exercise price, the investor may as well buy the shares direct. In this case the warrants are known as being "out of the money".

When the cost of exercising the warrant is below the share price, the warrant is said to be "in the money".

Even if the warrant price plus the exercise costs add up to more than the current share price the warrant may still be worth buying if the share is likely to increase considerably in value by the exercise date.

Warrants do not pay dividends, and so are not liable for income tax. However they may incur capital gains tax.

Unfortunately, warrants bought on the open market are not eligible for inclusion in the tax shelter of a personal equity plan. But if you have received warrants as part of units in a new investment trust, these may be transferred into a Pep up to 42 days after they have been issued, provided they are not traded separately.

Warrant prices magnify any fluctuations in the price of the underlying shares, and the market moves extremely fast. This volatility make warrants completely unsuitable for investors who break into a cold sweat every time their BT shares fall a few pence.

The extent of the risk can be illustrated by the performance of funds investing in warrants during 1994. Investment adviser Hargreaves Lansdown launched its HL Warrant Portfolio unit trust last April and even the company's managing director, Stephen Lansdown, admits the fund has turned in a wretched performance so far.

"It's one for people with strong hearts," he says. "We're down about 30 per cent since we started, but it's not something one should be desperately worried about because in warrants you have to go through some pretty rough times."

Hargreaves Lansdown's unit trust is not alone in losing money. Exeter Fund Managers runs a unit trust which invests predominantly in warrants issued by investment trusts. The Exeter Warrant Fund has fallen 29 per cent in value during the year to the end of January, although it has grown by 116 per cent overall since its launch in February 1992.

The fund also invests a minimum of 20 per cent of its value in zero dividend preference shares.

Scottish Value Management runs the Warrants and Value Investment Trust, a £30 million fund investing in a global range of warrants issued by other investment trusts and commercial companies, and investment trust capital shares. Although the trust's net asset value has grown by 42.5 per cent since its launch in March 1993, this has fallen 13.7 per cent in the year to the end of December.

Having said that, all three fund managers are reasonably confident that the warrants market is be about to start moving upwards again.



High risk: warrants will appeal to the adventurous

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JOHN GOVETT

Are endowments terminally ill?

Sara McConnell compares trust savings plans with the more traditional methods of repaying the mortgage

Borrowers are deserting endowment mortgages in droves and turning to saving through personal equity plans linked to unit trusts or investment trusts to pay off their loans, or taking out repayment mortgages.

Public disenchantment with endowments as a means of paying off mortgages is reflected in the 1994 sales figures published by the Association of British Insurers last month.

Total sales have nearly halved since 1991, with 757,000 plans being sold in 1994 against 1.4 million in 1991. There are no figures to show how many unit and investment trust savings plans and Peps have been sold to cover mortgages, but the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif) claims that "anecdotally", sales are increasing.

Lenders are also keener to accept unit trust or Pep savings plans to pay off mortgages than they used to be, says Autif. Repayment mortgages have also taken on a new lease of life, according to mortgage brokers. The endowment mortgage's fall from grace has been dramatic over the past two years, as press reports slammed them for being expensive, inflexible and unsuitable for many.

Bonuses fell along with inflation and the stock market and there were fears that some policies would not pay off the mortgage. People cashing in policies early (typically after five years) found they almost always got back less than they put in, because most of the charges are levied upfront. By contrast, unit trust savings plans, including Peps, charge less upfront but levy annual management charges, which have a significant impact over 25 years.

So if you have an endowment already, will you get less out of it? Or have these policies been unjustly maligned? If you have not got an endowment, or are moving house, would you do better with a unit trust savings plan or Pep to pay off your loan? Or should you take out a repayment mortgage? This is how each type of plan works:

■ An endowment is a savings plan with life assurance built in. The idea is to build up enough capital to pay off your mortgage after 25 years and give you a tax-free lump sum on top. If you die before the end of your mortgage term, the policy pays off the loan.

■ With a unit trust or investment trust savings plan you are also trying to save enough capital to pay off the mortgage at the end of the term. But income and capital gains in unit trusts are taxed; through a unit or investment trust linked to a Pep, income and capital gains are tax free. Life assurance to pay off the mortgage if you die is not included.

■ With a repayment mortgage, you are paying off increasing amounts of capital along with the interest. You will need to take out life insurance to pay off the loan if you die before the end of the term.

Of course, how you repay your loan depends on circumstances but in an attempt to compare the results of the different methods *The Times* asked Standard Life and Allied Dunbar, to calculate how much an investor with a £60,000 mortgage, putting £100 a month into an endowment now, would have after 25 years. Then we asked two fund managers, Fidelity and Schroders, to calculate how much an investor would get after putting £100 a month into a Pep and a unit trust plan. Finally, these were compared with a repayment mortgage.



CHRIS EADES

Time expired: the Hills were told they could expect to pay off the mortgage ten years early

The figures in detail

■ **Fidelity:** If you put £100 a month for 25 years into a Fidelity UK Growth Pep you would get £53,678 at 6 per cent (£131,702 at 12 per cent). Without charges, you would have got approximately £68,500 (£178,000). Cashing in your plan after five years would give you £6,589 (£7,658) including charges. A Fidelity UK Growth unit trust would pay £66,599 after 25 years, assuming a growth rate of 7.5 per cent. Without charges, you would have got about £86,000.

■ **Schroders:** £100 a month invested in a Schroders Income and Growth Fund Pep at 6 per cent over 25 years would give you £57,050 (£151,000). Without charges, you would have again got approximately £68,000 (£178,000). After five years, you would get £6,603 (£7,720) including charges. You would have to pay for life cover on top. A regular £100 payment into a Schroders Income and Growth unit trust savings plan would pay £71,148 after 25 years including charges (about £86,000 gross).

■ **Standard Life.** £100 invested in Standard's Homeplan endowment would be worth £67,000 after 25 years, at 7.5 per cent. Without charges deducted, you would have had an extra £19,300. If you cash in after five years you would get £6,360. The deductions include life cover and assume monthly charges will rise at 4.5 per cent a year.

■ **Allied Dunbar.** Your premium would be £88.98 a month (see explanation opposite). This includes life and critical illness cover of £4.75. After 25 years, your plan would be worth £48,200 at a growth rate of 7.5 per cent. Without charges, you would have got an extra £27,200. If you surrender in the first five years you will get back £2,560. The company says the final value of the plan may look low because regulators insist on low growth rates, but it is confident contributions will grow at 9.25 per cent. The figures also assume that monthly charges will rise by 6 per cent a year.

■ **Repayment mortgage.** You will pay a mixture of capital and interest over the term, with more interest paid at the start of the term and more capital nearer the end. Assuming that interest rates stay at 6 per cent throughout the term of the mortgage and that you are paying a total of £400 (£100 capital and £300 interest) a month, you would have paid off your loan by the twenty-third year of the mortgage term, £100 a month being slightly more than you need to pay. Apart from term assurance, you will just pay the cost of servicing the loan (6 per cent).

These figures assume life policies and unit trust savings plans grow by 7.5 per cent a year. Peps grow by a conservative 6 per cent and an optimistic 12 per cent (the rates are different because gains from Peps are tax free). Income and capital gains tax are charged on proceeds of unit trusts but not on endowments. Companies have deducted their own charges from the total invested and earned. Gross totals before charges for Schroders and Fidelity are rounded. Allied Dunbar assumes its charges will rise 6 per cent a year and Standard Life 4.5 per cent.

Over 25 years, you would have done better with a Pep than with an endowment

■ Over 25 years, you would have done better with a Pep than with an endowment or a unit trust savings plan. However, this is not so much because the charges are lower. Rather, it is because of the tax breaks on Peps, which let them grow faster.

■ Unit trust savings plans do less well than Peps because gains from them are taxed. However, some unit trust savings plans would still return you more than some endowments. Many companies (including the ones featured here) charge more for investing in a unit trust directly than in the same unit trust through a Pep. Unit trusts, whether in a Pep or not, are more flexible than endowments because there are not usually any penalties for cashing in early. You can also move funds around more easily.

■ If you surrendered after five years, you would do worse with an endowment than with a Pep. But some endowments pay out much more than others.

■ Companies have different ways of calculating this apparently simple figure, which makes it difficult for investors to compare policies. Allied Dunbar works backwards, starting with the loan the policy needs to cover and calculating the premium needed to achieve the capital sum. It assumes the investment will grow at 9.25 per cent when working out the premiums, which gives it a monthly premium of £88.98, including critical illness cover. Once it has worked out the premiums, it uses the prescribed standard growth rates. Endowments are complicated by the inclusion of life cover, while you have to remember to add this cost on for Peps and unit trust savings plans.

Early promise that has failed to pay off

Gary and Linda Hills were delighted when their financial adviser explained to them that they would be able to pay off their mortgage ten years early if they took out a Homebuilder Plus endowment policy from Guardian Royal Exchange.

Nearly eight years later, however, the policy into which they have paid more than £6,000 would be worth just £5,642 if they surrendered it.

Mr Hills has worked out that at this rate it will take 21 years to grow enough to pay off the £30,000 mortgage it was taken out to cover. Premiums on the low start, unit linked policy, which had started at £47.08 a month had risen by 10 per cent a year for six years until they reached £83.34.

Mr Hills said: "The salesman told us it would pay out a minimum of £30,000 but the reason we bought it was because he said we would pay off the mortgage in 15 years instead of 25."

Now the couple are so angry that they are negotiating with the Halifax to convert their mortgage to a repayment.

Mr Hills added: "We have scrimped and saved, my wife has given up work, we now have twin girls of two and I've lost my overtime. I rang up Guardian Royal Exchange to complain and I was so annoyed I would have leapt down the phone wire and strangled the man at the other end if I could."

Guardian said Homebuilder Plus guaranteed to pay off the mortgage after 23 years, unlike other unit-linked policies. This made it more expensive. A large part of each monthly premium was still going to pay these charges and the full amount of each month's premium would not be invested for another two and a half years. Mr Hills had been given a surrender value, in which a further penalty had been levied, rather than the actual value of his policy, the company added.

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